

Cashmere and biscuit exports hit

Protest to US in banana trade war

By Philip Webster and Charles Bremner

BRITAIN'S relations with the United States were jolted last night as a dispute over banana imports to Europe flared into a trade war.

The American Ambassador to London was called to the Department of Trade and Industry to face a fierce protest over Washington's action in imposing swingeing duties on £350 million worth of European goods, including the Scottish cashmere industry.

Philip Lader was told by Stephen Byers, the Trade Secretary, that the American action was irrational and unacceptable and he asked the US Government "in the spirit of friendship" to think again. There was no justification, he said, in inflicting damage on business and communities that were completely unrelat-ed to the banana dispute. The Ambassador will face a similar rebuke at the Foreign Of-

Mr Lader arrived at the DTI ffice in Whitehall last night in a Cadillac for the highly unusual "carpeting" of an Ameri-can ambassador by a trade minister. The Government reacted to the American move by offering cash guarantees to help cashmere exporters to meet the new demands of US

Customs. John Redwood, the Shadow Trade Secretary, said that it was a "diplomatic calamity of the highest order" that the Government had got into a trade war with the US and had failed to find a European Union banana regime that

abided by international law. It is the worst rift since the Americans granted Gerry Adams a visa against the Conservative Government's wishes in 1994. In recent history there were rows over the Amer-

Euro falls to lowest level

The euro fell to its lowest value against sterling and the dollar yesterday after Wim Duisenberg, President of the the European Central Bank, rejected a German plea to cut interest rates to stop curoland's biggest economy falling into reces-

In two months of trading, the new currency has fallen 8 per cent against the dollar and 5 ... Page 27

ican invasion of Grenada in 1983 and over US sanctions aginst European companies involved in building the Siberian oil pipeline to Europe.

the sanctions on Wednesday night over the refusal of Britain and other EU states to stop giving favourable treatment to bananas imported from the Caribbean and Africa.

British goods worth about £60 million, including cash-mere and biscuits, and other items from Europe, including cheese, handbags, candles and bubble baths, are affected.

About 2,400 British jobs could be at risk. The longthreatened American action was a response to the EU's reluctance to accept an international ruling and give so-called "dollar" bananas, imported by US firms mainly from Latin America, equal market access with the fruit from former British and The European Union argues that some protection is needed to support the livelihood of former colonies that depend on bananas for their economic survival.

Sir Leon Brittan, the Commissioner responsible for the EU's foreign trade, said that the American demand for firms to pay a 100 per cent "bond" on the imports was an irrational breach of international law that "risks a major trade confrontation".

Last November America announced its intenion of retaliating against the EU by imposing 100 per cent duties on selected products. It sought World Trade Organisation (WTO) authority for the move, but when the WTO arbitrator said on Tuesday that he needed more information before making a decision, the American Government decided to go ahead anyway.

Although it argued that it would not apply the duties until after the arbitrator had ruled, the effect was the same because it asked exporters to put up bonds to cover possible duties in future. Britain has been singled out

for the heaviest retaliation apparently because of its backing for privileged banana trade with its former Caribbean territories. Denmark and The Netherlands face no sanctions because they do not back the EU stand.

In another dispute, Congress is moving closer to a ban on flights to the United Statesby the Anglo-French Concorde in retaliation for new EU noise controls that affect older American aircraft.

> republics, page 4 Leading article, Letters, page 23



Prince and the showgirls. The Duke of Edinburgh meeting some of the chorus line of the musical Chicago at the Adelphi theatre in the West End

rama fit for a royal performance

By Alan Hamilton

her throne, poisoned. At the cry of "Treason! Seek it out!" another Queen jumped startled in her seat, as well a mon-

arch might. More or less everyone dies in the closing moments of Hamlet, which yesterday provided the opening scene of a day's tour of London theatreland by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Queen saw rather a lot of dying, while the Duke had much more fun with a line of chorus girls when he visted rehearsals for the musical Chicago at the Adelphi.

Themed days out are an innovation by the Palace, begun last year when the Queen spent a day visiting financial institutions in the City. Yesterday's was a recognition of Lon-

tribution to the balance of paythe thespian world to preen itself with pride.

Scene one occurred at the Young Vic, which runs theatre workshops for local schoolchildren. Hamlet and Lacries rehearsed their final fatal duel for the Queen, who struggled to hear the Prince of Denmark's last words delivered in

near-impenetrable Jamaican. Scene two was infinitely moved to the Lyceum to hear the cast of Oklahoma rehearsing the thigh-slapping The Farmer and the Comman

Should be Friends. The monarch is not known as a regular theatregoer, but she does like Oklahoma, having seen the original London production in 1949. Princess Margaret liked it even more

don theatre's £225 million con- and reportedly went to see it

went to see it again. It was the Queen's choice, and she had reportedly wavered between gers and Hammerstein and the current production of

The musical won, possibly on the strength of family rec-ommendation; Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother saw the production at the National Theatre as a birthday treat

Backstage at the Lyceum during her morning visit, the Queen met the cast headed by Maureen Lipman, who plays Aunt Eller, and who confessed that she would relish speaking the line "She'll feel like a queen sittin' up in that carriage", a reference to the grimmer. The Queen moved on to the Almeida Theatre in Brandauer, an eminent Austrian actor, in final rehearsal as Albert Speer, Hitler's armaments minister, set in 1980s East Berlin after Speer's re-

lease from prison. Brandaeur gave the Queen a magnificently Prussian bow and handshake, complete with click of the heels, and showed her the model of Speer's proposed Great Hall, hich was to have been the

side it. fascinated. In the Almeida's rehearsal rooms the Queen met her ancestor and namesake, in the shape of the Australian actress Cate Blanchett, who has won an Oscar nomination for her film portrayal of Eliza-

beth I. But Gloriana preferred to talk of her latest part, as Susan Traherne in David Hare's Continued on page 2

Abduction charge

Jeffrey and Jenny Bramley. the couple who were at the cen tre of a nationwide hunt after they disappeared for four months with their two foster daughters, were yesterday charged with abduction in CambridgeshiePage 5

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Cook to face censure on leaks

BY ROLAND WATSON POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ROBIN COOK faces a severe censure from Parliament after he admitted yesterday to receiving two further leaks of se-

lect committee reports. Tories accused the Foreign Secretary of complicity and called for his resignation after he had confessed to the embarrassing disclosure. It comes after last week's revelation that he had received two leaks in advance of the critical report on his department's handling of the arms-to-Africa affair.

Mr Cook was facing a drawn out inquiry into those particular episodes. However. last night's further admission threatened to mire the Foreign Secretary in a wider controversy of breaking parliamentary

rules. Shaun Woodward, Tory MP for Witney, accused Mr Cook of a grave abuse of Parliament" and being party to "institutionalised leaking".

Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, has asked the cross-party Committee on Standards and Privileges to rule on whether a minister who receives leaked documents and fails to return them is in breach of parliamen-

Handwritten notes tell tale of Uganda deaths

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN THE BWIND! NATIONAL PARK

that had been placed on the chests of two victims of Monday's slaughter of tourists in southwest Uganda, an army colonel vowed that his men would hunt down and kill the Rwandan rebels responsible.

In the tourist camps, beneath the jungle canopy of the national park, lie fire-gutted vehicles and the roofless, burnt-out huts. Then the remnants of a last meal, eaten before anyone could have been aware of imminent danger. And finally, a trail of scattered papers: a Wolverhampton Wanderers fixture list: two Putney cinema tickets for Shakespeare In Love, a shopping list, and a handful of re-

Lieutenant-Colonel Benon Biraro of the Ugandan Army. said his troops, working in con-junction with the Rwandan Army, were closing in on the insurgents, some 25 miles across the Congolese border. "I am confident that we will

hunt them down," he said. "It

will not be a day: it will not be

a week, but we will get them,"

CETOES

he said. "We are looking for them and we will kill them." He said that 15 of the rebels had been killed on Wednesday in an ambush by the Rwandan Army on the Goma-Kisora mad and that the Rwan-

HOLDING out death notes that had been placed on the traps for them. He said he did not regard the rebels, members of the Interahamwe Hutu militia who were held responsi-ble for the 1994 genocide of Tutsis in Rwanda, as adversaries but simply as terrorists and criminals who deserved no

> He produced two notes, written in French on the backs of photographs of a gorilla and a kingfisher, which he said had been left on the chests of two men bludgeoned to death after being abducted with 12 other

to thema MAJORITE ..

The killers' message "This is the punishment for the Anglo-Saxons who sold us out. You are protecting the mmonity and you are oppressing the majority'

Western tourists and forcemarched into Congo. Six other tourists, including four women were also hacked to death.

Four of them were Britons. The notes confirmed earlier reports that English speakers had been singled out for execution. One note read: This is the fate of the Anglo-Saxons who betrayed us to the Nilotics against the Bantu cultivators." The terms Nilotics and Bantu cultivators are used in

and Hutus respectively.

The other note said: "This is the punishment for the Anglo-Saxons who sold us out. You are protecting the minority and you are oppressing the majority."

Rwanda to describe Tutsis

The standard of the handwriting, with only very minor spelling mistakes, shows a level of schooling not at all unusual among the Hutus. The Hutu leadership is extremely well educated. At Buhoma camp, Gongo Ti-

besigwa, the manager, described what he had seen of the attack. "It went on for about 20 minutes. I ran to the camp to find out what was happening. but the people had already been taken and the fires were burning."

Yard joins FBL pages 16,17 The parents are simon Jenkins, page 22 August wedding.

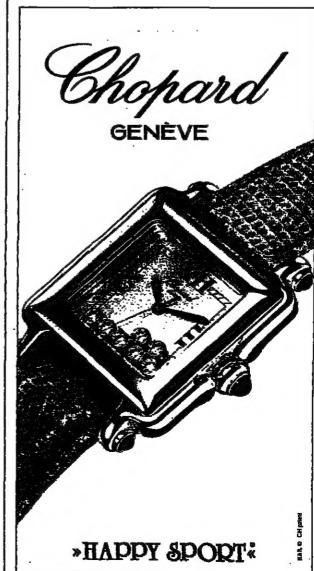


Lewinsky's tour of Britain

Monica Lewinsky will travel to 19 bookstores around Britain in 18 days to sign copies of Andrew Morton's book about her. The woman who almost brought down the President flies to London from New York on Sunday. On Monday she will sign at Harrods be-fore heading for venues including the Trafford Centre in Manchester: Meadowhall in Sheffield; Merryhill, Birmingham; the Lakeside centre in Essex and the new Bluewater complex in Kent ____ Page 3

Posh Spice awaits baby

Posh Spice, Victoria Adams went into labour yesterday aftermoon just 12 days after her fellow Spice Girl, Scary, had her daughter. Ms Adams, 24, was taken to the Portland Hospital in London with David Beckham, her fiance and the Manchester United footballer. The parents are planning an



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Yes, we have no mention of the 'b' word by the minister

Ambassador, Stephen Byers declared. Pooter, thou shouldst be living at this hour. For Mr Byers had come to tell us about bananas.

Banana is not a word that falls easily from the lips of such a dignified man. Carry-ing with him the air of a wellregarded local government accountant, Mr Byers displays the sort of purse-lipped gravi-ty to which any mention of bananas would be a kind of af-

dustry: and Britain, with our European partners, is at daggers drawn with the United States, about ... well, you know what

Yesterday Mr Byers had to make a Commons statement. The Americans are banning our knitware because Europe won't take their ... you know what. Trade war looms. There was no way round mentioning the cause of it.

Quite possibly Mr Byers had never said "banana" in

tary of State for Trade and In- his life. Banana splits are no the kind of pudding this quiet, order. If he had a pudding at all, it would be a small lemon sorbet. Simply to say the "b" word would get his specs steamed up.

But he said it. Once. Opting to get it over with fast, Byers had placed the word in the first sentence of his four-page statement. To remove any hint of gaiety that the word might have lent the passage, he coupled the banana with



two acronyms and the word "regime": " ... dispute with the WTO over the EU's hanana regime . . . "). And he had chosen a grey tie for the occasion - a different one from last Thursday. Byers keeps a whole rack of ties, all grey. He never said "banana" again in the singular. This

was quite a feat of draughts-manship. We had "an amended regime", "this regime", "the US action" and "this decision". But on the penultimate page of his statement Byers locked himself into an argument that could be expressed in no other way. "It is particu-larly unfortunate," he said.

rected against industries that have absolutely no connection

There was no way of getting round the fruit. He bit the bullet. "Bananas," he said. Not since John Selwyn Gummer had to say "porpoises" nine times during a single state-ment has pride been so punctured. Next week Mr Byers's civil servants plan to make him say "bottoms". The context is still being contrived. Words matter. One word

yesterday, wrongly reported, is in danger of entering books of political quotations in its mistaken form. Mocking

as reporters filed their copy. In fact it works as well as the original.

Even better would be to add what he saw as the anti-European zealotry of the present Official Opposition, Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, called the Tories "the rump of a sect of a faction of a once-national party". A good line. I heard it, and have no doubt that those journalistic colleagues who re-ported "the runt of a sect..." etc. misheard. But that was the version going the rounds

No job

for 400

the misheard to the heard: "the rump of the runt of a sect of a faction ... " etc. So shall we just settle on that?

☐ The Times's "When Did You Stop Beating Your Wife?" parliamentary award: to Tory spokesman Nick Gibb. He asked the Chief Secretary which Labour most regretted: making a false promise break-ing it; or being found out?

Water firms fear pollution by GM crops

WATER companies are demanding a moratorium on the commercial planting of geneti-cally modified crops amid fears that chemicals used on them may pollute rivers, lakes and reservoirs.

The water industry fears that widespread planting of herbicide-tolerant crops, such as oil seed rape and sugar beet, might lead to problems in meeting the strict legal limits on the levels of individual weed and pest-killing chemicals in drinking water. The companies are concerned that they may face multimillion-pound bills to put in herbicide removal technologies at water treatment works.

A spokesman for Water UK. the industry's body, said: "We have genuine concerns about the widespread use of crops which rely on just two chemicals, so we favour a go-slow, a moratorium. We need time to find the answers. We need sevcral years." An industry team of environmental and scientific experts is to meet for the first time this month, to investigate the possible effect on drinking water. English Nature. the Government's wildlife advisers, has called for a three to five-year moratorium.

At present farmers use a wide range of different herbicides to control weeds. Peter Beaumont, of the Pesticides Nick Nuttall

on concern that narrower range of farm chemicals may

breach EU laws

Trust in London, estimates that between 60 and 70 are used in British agriculture. But genetically engineered crops such as oil seed rape, maize and sugar beet, which are being readied for commercial planting, work in conjunction with just two. These are glyphosate, marketed by Monsanto under the brand name Round Up, and glufosinate, marketed under the trade

name of Liberty by AgrEvo. The European Drinking Water Directive sets the limit for individual pesticides or herbi-cides in drinking water of 0.1 microgrammes per litre, or less than one part per billion. Total pesticide and herbicide levels must not be above 0.5 microgrammes per litre.

The latest report by the Government's Drinking Water In-spectorate says that in 1997, ried out on tap water and that . ards even in the big agricultur-al heartlands of East Anglia and Lincolnshire.

Water companies have invested El billion in treatment and at least one company, Wessex Water, paid farmers to switch to organic agriculture to reduce chemical sprays. The sheer range of herbicides avail-able has also helped to keep individual chemicals within the European limits. Water companies are wor-

ried that widespread planting of gene altered crops and their reliance on two weedkillers could lead to an increase in breaches. Pamela Taylor, chief executive of Water UK, said there were other concerns including the impact of wastes from animals eating the genealtered crops. The industry is disappointed that it has not won the right to be told where such crops are being planted so it can monitor their impact.

John Fowell, chief toxicologist at the Water Research Centre in Henley-on-Thames, believes that gene-altered crops could be a boon to the environment. Seed companies say that farmers will need to use less sprays. He added: "This needs to be strictly monitored. If there is concern, it centres on breakdown products of these herbicides building up in ground water."



Elizabeth too: the Queen at costumiers Angels and Bermans in London yesterday

Continued from page I Plenty. "It's quite terrifying. if's such an extraordinary play," said the former Eliza-beth I.

Elizabeth II ran into her ancestor again at the theatrical costumiers Angels and Bermans, where there was a reminder of her own theatrical past a 1944 photograph of herself and her spater per-forming in Old Mother Red Riding Boots, one of a series of Christmas pantomines they mounted at Windsor dur-

It was time for the interval.

Royalty in West End

consisting of lunch at the lvy. The lucky luvvies who got to sit next to the Queen over a lunch of plum tomato and basil galette, salmon fishcakes and Scandinavian iced berries were Dr Jonathan Miller and Michael Codron, producer of Michael Frayn's

The final act of the afternoon starred Lord Attenbor-

ough and was played at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, of which Dickie is chair-man. He showed the Queen fencing classes, an expression class for visiting Japanese ac-tors, and students rehearsing a death scene from the Jaco-

bean tragedy The Changeling.
"I started this morning with young people at the Young Vic, and they were dying like flies." the Queen said brightly, telling the drama coach that it was cruel to ask the dying beroine to breathe more deeply when she was wearing such a tight corset.

doctors trained at £40m BY IAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of urgently needed specialist doctors, who cost the National Health Service millions of pounds to train. face dismissal because there is no money to provide them

with jobs.
The first notices have been sent out terminating the doctors' contacts: they take effect from the end of this month. By May 2001 about 400 doctors, trained at a cost of £40 million, will have to quit medicine, go abroad or start another fiveyear course in another specialty with no certainty of a job at

the end of it. The doctors are obstetricians and gynaecologists but the British Medical Association said yesterday that because of "shambolic workforce planning" they would be only the first specialists to be hit in this way. Before long, ear, nose and throat specialists, as well as cardio-thoracic and renal surgeons would face a similar problem. At the same time there would be unfilled vacancies for radiologists and

psychiatrists. This is a human tragedy for trained, experienced doctors who are being put on the scrapheap in their thirties. and for the women and children who are dying because of lack of care," lan Bogle, chair-man of the BMA, said. "We have been warning the Government for years that this

was going to happen and this is just the first crisis. "It will happen in other specialisms too. The frightening thing is the Government thinks it has a good workforce plan when in fact it is shambolic. These doctors have been betrayed and deceived. They have spent years in medical school, done all the terrible hours of junior doctors, completed more training to become a specialist and are now being

told they are redundant." Nizam Mamode, deputy chairman of the junior doctor's committee, said the Government was wasting a perfect opportunity to improve maternity care. It is a scandal that these people are being jetti-soned while women don't get the care they deserve," he said.

"The scandal does not stop there. There is to be a reduction of 293 being accepted for training but the Health Department have refused to spend the £5.4 million that this will save on hiring the consult-ants who have already been trained. The whole thing

Seems crazy."
About 500 doctors were recruited to train as obstetricians and gynaecologists over the past five years because the NHS estimated in the early 1990s that there was a need for 7 per cent more consultant posts in the specialty. However the ongoing cash squeeze in the NHS means that only 2 per cent more posts have been created and last year there were 28 vacancies in the field.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Census to ask if couples are gay

Questions on personal relafor the first time how many people are living as homosexu-al couples are to be included in the 2001 census.

It will also ask people their religion for the first time since 1857 and contain new ques-tions on race, including one asking those who class them-selves as white to say whether

they are Irish. Couples will be asked to indicate either if they are married, unrelated or "partners". The data will be analysed to find out how many couples of the same sex describe themselves as partners. The question was welcomed by gay rights campaigners, who argued that it would give the first official recognition to homosexual "marriages".

E. coli outbreak

An 18-month-old girl is one of three children seriously ill with possible kidney failure after an outbreak of E. coli food poisoning in Cumbria. Twenty-five people have been affected and II are still in hospital. Health officials are checking a possible link with milk from a farm at Brigham near Cock-

Smaller classes

Ministers expect to more than halve the number of young children in large classes after allocating another £150 million to provide new class rooms and employ more teachers in primary schools. It is 200,000 children aged five to seven will be in classes of more than 30 by September.

Porpoise dies

A pregnant porpoise that was rescued by divers from the Thames at Westminster died minutes later. Paul Jepson of London Zoo, who was carrying out a post-mortem examination, said there was no obvious cause of death. He said the 4ft harbour porpoise might have been distressed after being stranded at a low tide.

Vet rents scanner

A hospital in West Sussex is to raise money by renting a scanner used to detect brain and spine tumours to a vet. Officials at Worthing Hospital said that there was no health risk and that patients would retain priority over pets. The vet, Ralph Abercromby, is to use the £600,000 machine two or three evenings a week.

CORRECTION

Our map showing local government elections in May 1999 omitted the 36 Metropolitan Boroughs such as Newcastle. Leeds, Liverpool, Sheffield and Birmingham, where one third of the seats are up for election this year. Also left out were the district councils in which all the council seats are being contested in May.

Solicitors hit back after 'seamy' slur

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

SOLICITORS' leaders angrily denounced the Government last night after a minister told them to get their house in order and crack down on the

"seamy side of the profession.

The Law Society told a

Home Office minister to "put up or shut up" in a clash over allegedly poor and incompetent advice offered to asylum seekers and immigrants. Michael Mathews, the President of the Law Society, sig-nalled that the profession had finally lost patience with the Government following the lat-est criticism from the immigra-

Mike O'Brien, the minister who is also a solicitor, said there were real concerns about the activities of some solicitors. He said: "There is a clear message to the legal profession. There is a seamy side to my profession and I want that seamy side cleaned up."

He added: "The Law Society have been asked to sort it out and we expect them to do so. We don't want to have these advisers and lawyers providing incompetent and sometimes

corrupt advice. "We expect the Law Society and the Bar, in some respects, to ensure that the law is cleaned up."

Mr O'Brien, who was speaking at a conference in London organised by the Immigration Advisory Service, gave warn-ing that if the Law Society did not rid the profession of poor immigration lawyers the Gov-ernment would require solicitors to register under a new system of regulation.

The Government is to set up statutory regulation of non-le-gally qualified immigration advisers but has exempted solicitors because the Law Society has agreed to introduce im-proved training for firms offering legal advice on immigration and asylum issues. The Law Society said it had

repeatedly requested informa-tion from the Home Office ing incompetence advice. It said without detailed allega-tions it was powerless to act

Aitken 'recovering from stroke'

JONATHAN AITKEN, the former Con-servative Cabinet minister who is awaiting sentence for perjury and perverting the course of justice, was said yesterday to be recovering from a minor stroke.

The stroke apparently happened last week and involved burst blood vessels that affected his sight. His lawyers said he was expected to make a full recovery, but his mother at first said she knew nothing about it. However. Lady Aitken said later: "I eather he has had what they call a mini-stroke . . . not an incapacitating sort. He is perfectly all right."

Said Ayas, Aitken's friend and former business partner, yesterday walked free from the Old Bailey after charges against him of attempting to pervert the course of justice and of conspiring to pervert the course of justice were dropped. The former MP had pleaded not guilty to the latter charge, which had been jointly laid against the two men.

Case is dropped against ex-business partner,

writes Michael Horsnell

very relieved. It is has been a very stressful time when you are in a case like this."

The withdrawal of the two charges against Mr Ayas - rogether with the fact that Aitken, 56, has already admitted other charges - mean that details of their relationship, which might have embar-rassed the Saudi Arabian royal family and the British Government, will never be

heard in open court. Aitken, who was Defence Procurement Minister and then Chief Secretary to the Treasury under John Major, made a 120-paragraph confession to police admitting he had woven a web of deceit during his unsuccessful libel action in 1997 After the hearing, Mr Ayas said: "I am against The Guardian and Granada Tele-

vision for which he still has to pay £2 million in costs. His civil action centred on the allegation that he had stayed at the Ritz in Paris in 1993 at the expense of prominent Saudi friends - in breach of rules covering government ministers. It was his lying at the High Court about the trip that led to criminal charges.

Aitken subsequently confessed that he alone was responsible for forcing his wife Lolicia, his teenage daughter Victoria and Mr Ayas to tell lies in witness statements. In his confession, Aitken detailed how the Saudis paid a second hotel bill for him

as a minister the day after the infamous jaunt in Paris, The Times understands. The Lebanese-born Mr Ayas. 56, formally pleaded not guilty yesterday to the two charges against him, and Mr Justice Pous directed that not-guilty verdicts be record-

Details of Aitken's confession were dis-Details of Arisen's concession december which could not then be reported.

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me. She knifed me." The former White House intern also disclosed that she would

of the affair

Lakeside: the

business end

lic, clamouring for a glimpse of the world's most famous lover, should queue up.

Miss Lewinsky will have 24-hour use of a chauffeurdriven Mercedes courtesy of her publishers, Michael O'Mara Books, and will be accompanied at all times by a bodyguard, a publicist and two sales managers.

Many celebrities refuse to

tour book shops outside London, but Miss Lewinsky, 25, has gamely agreed to a sometimes gruelling schedule. By tradition she will make

her debut at Harrods, where

she will sit at the desk where such historic figures as Mikhail Gorbachev, Norman Schwarzkopf and Baroness Thatcher have autographed copies of their weighty tomes. A spokesman for Harrods said: "She will not be coming in through one of the main public entrances, she will be

coming in the back way and up to the Art Room where many, many famous people have signed their books." He added that Harrods was expecting big crowds and security would be at a maximum.

orders had been placed for reserved signed copies of Moni-

Press photographers and cameramen will be allowed to take pictures of the former Whitehouse intern for 15 minutes before signings. However, journalists are not allowed to ask her questions. A spokeswoman for Dillons

in Newcastle, which Miss Lewinsky will visit on March 16, said: "She is bringing her own security people who we understand have been supplied by the publishers. We had a visit from them last week to look over the store. She will not be sitting at street

"We are really looking for-ward to it. Not all famous people are prepared to go outside of London to promote their books so we think there will be a real buzz to the day."

The author Andrew Morton, who is in the US promoting the book until March 13, will join her at Waterstones in Leeds on March 16. Miss Lewinsky has visited Britain once before during her work with the Pentagon, Later, in December 1997, she wrote a letter to Bill Clinton in which she Within three hours of an adversaid: "I loved you with all of



A shop assistant watches Ms Lewinsky's ABC interview at a store in Toronto. A record 70 million Americans are believed to have tuned in

be with you all of the time, most recently in London. I walked the streets thinking how content I would be to walk the streets with you at my side."

المكنام الأجهار

Miss Lewinsky will visit the Lakeside shopping centre at Thurrock on March 13, a location that is used to the television cameras after being the subject of a 12-part series. Lakesiders, for BBCl last year.

Yesterday a spokeswoman for Michael O'Mara Books was unwilling to disclose details of where Miss Lewinsky would stay or whether she was travelling with her mother.

The show that stopped a nation

FROM DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN WASHINGTON

AMERICANS, many of whom have been insisting for months that they just wanted Monica Lewinsky to go away, made her first television interview the most watched news programme in the na-

tion's history.

The ABC said that provisional ratings figures indicated that 70 million people had watched some or all of the interview with Barbara Walters on Wednesday night. That unexpectedly eclipsed the 62

THE TELEVISION DEBUT

the 34 million who saw the interview with the Clintons in the wake of allegations during the 1992 campaign that Mr Clinton had an affair with Gennifer Flowers.

Opinion polls have consistently shown that Americans claim they are fed up with the Lewinksy saga but the ratings demonstrated that a quarter of the population could not resist hearing what she had to say, and that more than half the nation's television sets were tuned in.

In bars, gyms and airport lounges across the country, all eyes were on Mis Lewinsky, weeping and joking by turn. At Washington's Dulles Airport, passengers stepping off planes delayed by bad weather crowded around television sets to watch Ms Lewinsky tell her tale.

"We are thrilled," an ABC spokeswom an said yesterday. The network charged about £400,000 for each 30 second advertising spot during the interview.

Ms Lewinsky, who was not paid, had said that she wanted to tell people she was not a strumpet. She appeared to have had some success, with 44 percent of viewers saying that they thought more favourably of her after the broadcast, according

Pentagon protects identity of President's love rival

THE OTHER MAN

THE Pentagon yesterday shielded the identity of the defence official whose child Monica Lewinsky said she aborted during her relationship with President Clinton.

WHEN Monica Lewinsky be-

gan her affair with the US President it is unlikely that she

saw it ending with a trip to the Lakeside shopping centre in

The shopping and fast-food

emporium, which starred in a recent BBC docu-soap is, how-

ever, where she can be seen at

11.30am on Saturday week,

signing copies of Andrew Mor-

ton's book and fulfilling that

obligatory requirement of the

modern book deal - the pub-

Miss Lewinsky will travel to 19 bookstores around the coun-

try in 18 days. The woman

who almost brought down the

President flies to London from

New York on Sunday. On

Monday she will sign at Har-

rods before heading for ven-

ues including the Trafford Cen-

tre in Manchester; Meadow-hall in Sheffield; Merryhill,

Birmingham; and the new

Security will be almost as

tight as for a president. A firm

of private security guards has

spent weeks studying the lay-

out of book shops as far afield

as Glasgow and Bath and ad-

vising managers on where she

Bluewater complex in Kent

Ms Lewinsky refers to him with only a first name. Tho indeed he did, and they charmas, in Andrew Morton's ted far into the night. book. Mohiba's Story! She deexciting" in her interview on American relevision but was rejuctant to say much more

She did tease Mr Clinton about there being another man, teiling him that he had competition. She did not tell him about the abortion, which she had found to be just horrible and very depressing".

Thomas, 42, a civilian policy strategist, was single at the time of his three-month affair with Ms Lewinsky but has since married. He was said to have recoiled in horror when her relationship with Mr Clin-ton became public knowledge in January last year.

Thomas and Ms Lewinsky first met as members of a US delegation visiting Bosnia while she worked as an administrative assistant to Ken Bacon, the chief Pentagon spokesman. She was moved to the Pentagon by White House

ing too much of the President. Soon after Bosnia she saw Thomas for a date and he invited her to stay the night at her house, according to the book. She declined because the President might call her at home, as

She ended the affair with Thomas because, ironically, he was seeing other women and by then it was clear he was never going to be the new love of her life. "I enjoyed his company and I had feelings for him but not very strong feelings," Ms Lewinsky said. She discovered that she was pregnant just as the affair was

ending in October 1996. At the Pentagon, senior officials turned aside questions about the identify of Thomas, saying the affair was consensual and was not connected with defence policy. Colleagues have described him as an innocent bystander who did nothing improper. A Clinton aide said: "This may be the only example of someone whose life hasn't been ruined by an asso-

ciation with the scandal." The Morton book, which went on sale in America vesterday, sheds new light on notential problems facing Kenneth Starr, the independent prose-



The Morton book: not covered by Starr ban

tactics used by his staff. Under the immunity agreement in exchange for her grand jury testimony, Ms Lewinsky was barred from discussing the conduct of Mr Starr's staff on television but the deal did not apply to the book.

One chapter recounts how Michael Emmick, a Start prosecutor, called her lawyer, William Ginsburg, and offered to fax a copy of the affidavit in which she denied having an affair with Mr Clinton. She had signed the false statement in connection with the Paula Jones case. Two FBI agents who were in the room at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel near the Pentagon pulled Mr Emmick roughly away from the tele-

phone. They realised that Mr

the affidavit before it was filed with the court and it must have come from Ms Jones's lawyers, the book says.

The US Justice Department is investigating whether Mr Starr's staff had improper contacts with Ms Jones's lawyers and attempted to make Ms Lewinsky co-operate with them without letting her have a lawyer present. Ms Lewin-sky has said she was petrified by threats that she could be imprisoned for 27 years for obstruction of justice.

It was to be many months. however, before she signed the immunity deal that enabled Mr Starr to proceed. Without her help and without the infamously stained dress, he would have been unable to make the case for impeachment against the President.

Asked on television about the dress. Ms Lewinsky said: "It's fun to think it was a souvenir but that's not what it was." She explained that she did not know what the stains were at first and the reason why she never had the garment drycleaned was because she had grown too fat for it.

Ms Lewinsky said there was no new Prince Charming in her life but she would still like to marry and have children. She was asked how she would describe her presidential affair

"Mommy made a big mistake," she replied, grinning. Ginsburg would instantly real-

view with Michael Jackson in 1993 and

'He didn't have to deny the relationship with such anger'

THE INTERVIEW

BY OUR MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

MONICA LEWINSKY last night answered any lingering doubts as to whether she might still be in love with President Clinton

In an interview with Jon Snow on Channel 4, she rea called the precise moment her feelings nowards him turned sour. She said that she now switched channels if he appeared on television.

Miss Lewinsky. 25, could not hide the bitterness as she told Snow that she had come to realise that "rather than there being a man. Bill Clinton, he's 100 per cent politician". She added: "He's a good politician, but 100 per cent politician." Askeri whether she hat-

Most of her haired was clearly reserved for Linda Tripp, the woman who taped the conversations in which Ms Lewinsky detailed her affair. "She gutted me. She violated



Monica Lewinsky with her interviewer, Jon Snow

like the famous semen-stained Gap dress returned to her so that she could burn it.

Her illusions about the President were shattered, she said. when she saw him on national television denying that he had ever had a sexual relationship with "that woman Monica

"I remember exactly where I was, sitting on the bed in the apartment, watching TV, legs crossed ... I felt I could see and hear in his voice and his actions how very angry he was with me. And that hurt. He could have denied this relationship in a different way. He

didn't have to do it with such

She said she knew she no longer loved him when she heard that he he had told White House staff that she was a "stalker" who had en-trapped him. "That was the moment and the realisation that I fell completely out of

"I had hoped that he had sort of, y'know, turned a blind eye and said. Do what you

- such anger."

love with him.

need to protect me but I don't want to to be a part of it, and instead he was in there, writing all the plays." During the interview, which

more than 30 countries, she admitted that she had been devoted to President Clinton and had hoped for a future with him after he left office.

The first time she had seen him it had "taken her breath away". "He has a very magnetic sense about him and he's very sensual and attractive and draws you into his energy," she said.

"He just sort of looks at you.

he locks eyes with you and he sort of peels away the layers of your being with his eyes and with his energy and his spirit and it's very intense."

One of the things she had found most humiliating was the idea that their sex had been "one-sided". "This notion that ... I received nothing is false ... [during] the first encounter he concentrated on me and focused on me more be-

fore I focused on him." However, she admitted: "He didn't say he was in love with me, no."

Asked what she would say if she saw him again, Miss Lewinsky said she would apologise for being "indiscreet about the relationship". But she added: "Right now I could think of a few other people that I'd rather spend an evening with than him."

Stay of execution for knitwear industry

MILL towns in the Scottish Borders fear ruin because of the trade war over bananas. Twenty-two small companies that produce cashmere knitwear said that up to 1.000 jobs were at risk because of the threatened loss of business worth £20 million.

MPs and the industry began . intensive campaigning to protect the mills' 2,300 staff when the 100 per cent tariff on 14 randomly chosen items was mooted by the US in December. Their efforts appeared to have failed, with the mills becoming the main victim of a dispute that has nothing to do with

Yesterday afternoon, however, there was a glimmer of hope when the Government protested to the US Ambassador and pledged to underwrite the cost of the tariffs for cashmere, the worst-affected Brit-

ish industry. Half of all European cashmere and 90 per cent of British cashmere comes from the Borders. In towns such as Hawick nine in ten jobs are dependent on the industry. Brian Wilson. the Trade Minister, accused the US of declaring "economic warfare" on the region by tar-

geting its main employer. David Douglas, chief executive of Scottish Borders Enterprise, welcomed the Government's intervention vesterday. But he said: "Morale is still very low. We are all going to

Government pledge gives glimmer of hope to a mainstay of Borders economy, reports Shirley English

will have to last for the dura-

tion of the threat. It needs to

call America's bluff, otherwise

it will be disastrous," he said.

that nervous US customers

were looking elsewhere for

suppliers because of the uncer-

tainty caused by the banana

The US has known from the start what these trade sanc-

be on tenterhooks for the next six weeks until the World Trade Organisation makes its ruling. There is a fear that this could get worse and we have no control over it."

tions would mean for the Scot-The government pledge provided a lifeline for Clan Dougtish Borders but has continued las, a Hawick company that exto pursue them relentlessly. ports 90 per cent of its luxury There is supposed to be a Tartan Day in the States on April knitwear to the US. Without it the firm would have closed by 6; black armbands would be more appropriate."
Concern had been growing August, Arthur Rennie, the fac-

tory manager, said. The situation is desperate. Having to pay these bonds would have meant we quite literally would have run out of cash. The government pledge

Association, said: Our biggest concern was that we needed to give our customers confidence that they could place the orders with Scotland and we would deliver the goods without the 100 per cent duty. That is the lifeline the Government has given us."

The Borders economy has already been hit hard by the strong pound and the economic crisis in the Far East, which resulted in thousands of job losses in textiles and the electronics industry, the area's oth-

er main employer.

"If the mills close, there will be nothing left for Hawick," said Betty Turnbull, 55, who works for Clan Douglas and has been in the industry all her life, like her parents.



Sir Leon Brittan denouncing the sanctions yesterday. He said that the US risked a "major trade confrontation

war, George Peden, chief exec-America's complex links with banana republics

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

OFFICIALS for the Clinton Administration say the decision to take the banana issue to the World Trade Organisation was based on a mix of US corporate interest and the principle of free trade. But others detect a more sinister explanation.

The three biggest US fruit compa-nies — Dole, Chiquita Brands and Del Monte - control about 66 per

cent of the world market compared with the Caribbean growers' 3 per cent. Chiquita complains that Europe's tariffs cost it more than \$60 million a year in revenues.

Expecting to expand their markets in Eastern Europe dramatically after the collapse of the Berlin Wall, American companies invested heavi-ly in their Latin American plantarions but have seen little return. As for political influence, during the mid-90s, when Chiquita was pressing the Clinton Administration to take its case before the WTO, Carl Lindner, Chiquita's chairman, reportedly donated more than \$1 million to the Democrat Party. In fact the Cincinnati-based tycoon has been pumping money into US campaign coffers - Democrat and Republican — for decades. Critics say the donations are what enabled Mr Lindner to win sudden access to the

Clinton Administration - including key meetings with Mikey Kantor

when US Trade Representative. America has a long history of defending the banana companies' interests in Latin America. In 1954 the CIA helped to overthrow Jacobo Arbenz, Guatemala's socialist president, in part to protect the planta-tions of the United Fruit Company, as Chiquita was then known. The companies' influence in Central

America earned Honduras its "banana republic" reputation. The companies notoriously vied for govern-

ment favours, paying huge bribes. In 1975 Eli Black, the chairman of United Brand, committed suicide after it was disclosed that he paid a \$1.25 million bribe to the Honduran Government. The Honduran President was subsequently toppled by a military coup. Although more demo-

Central America, the US companies remain highly protective of their domain. In the early 1990s their influence was demonstrated when they tried to elbow out the British company Fyffes, which was trying to get

into the Central American market. Pyffes executives in northern Honduras had to arm themselves with stun guns against attacks and kidnapping attempts by police alleged by in the pay of Americans.

Two countries divided by a common fruit

tions have always been more about national interest than sentiment. Usually there has been close co-operation on de-fence and intelligence, yet both countries have from time to time disagreed on economic and trade matters. That was vividly illustrated yesterday in the Commons when George Robertson's assertion of Anglo-US solidarity on the Iraq no-fly zone was fol;

lowed by Stephen Byers's theatrical announcement that he had "sum-RIDDELL moned" the Ameri-

over the banana ON POLITICS dispute. Talk of "carpeting" and the like is gesture politics that exaggerates the current strains on Washington/London relations and gives a misleading impression of what

the dispute involves. The British and American Governments have almost always been able to balance differences over trade issues with close agreement in other areas. The Blair and Clinton Administrations now see eye to eye on Bosnia, Iraq, Northern Ireland and Kosovo.

Nonetheless, the banana dispute matters, not least because it has developed into such a public spat. Washington and Brussels have argued for several years over American claims that Europe gives unfair access to bananas imported from former colonies in the Caribbean and Africa. No iobs in Europe or America are directly affected by the banana trade, as opposed to the threatened retaliation.

The Clinton Administration and British scepticsaccuse Brussels of being intransigent and flouting the spirit of the rules of the World Trade Organisation. In Washington's view, European concessions after past WTO rulings still allow a regime that discriminates against US distributors of Lat-

BRITISH-AMERICAN rela- in American fruit. The EU, and Mr Byers, argue that the American retaliatory tariffs are unlawful under WTO rules; as well as inflammatory. A WTO arbitrators' panel is considering whether the EU has complied with its pre-

vious ruling. There have been rumblings from the European side that the White House may have been too influenced by Carl

Lindner, the chairman of the banana group Chiquita Brands International who has been a sizeable political donor. At the same time, the

Clinton Administration has been under pressure from Congress, which might have wanted mandatory sanctions if action had not been taken on Wednesday. These measures are partly symbolic and intended to buy time until the arbitrators' report is ready.

Underlying this argument is the threat of more general protectionism across the Atlantic Congress and American policymakers are worried about the rapidly rising US trade deficit and have been pressing for cuts in European interest rates to boost growth. This has led to increasing ten-sions: for instance, on Wednesday, the House of Representatives passed a Bill that would ban Concorde from flying into the US if the EU proceeds with plans to ban certain older, noisier American planes. This is all about American claims that the European Air-

bus has an unfair advantage. At stake is not just the authority of the WTO, and greater Congressional resentment at such multinational bodies. but also broader economic and trade tensions between the US and Europe. The failure of normal diplomacy to resolve such a minor dispute as that on bananas shows how



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Couple charged With abducting foster children A COUPLE who were at the centre of a nationwide hunt af-Case will be ter they disappeared for four months with their foster heard before

daughters were last night charged with abduction, police said yesterday.

Jeffrey and Jenny Bramley. civil proceedings. both 35, who live near Huntingdon. Cambridge-shire, have been charged with offences contrary to the Child Abduction Act 1984. They will appear before magistrature. report Frances Gibb and

der the Act are seven years' im-prisonment for each offence if it is heard in the Crown Court; although if the couple pleaded guilty and were tried by magistrates the maximum penalty is six months per offence.

Claudia Joseph

The prosecution is being brought on the advice of the Crown Prosecution Service. It was not clear yesterday whether it would have taken any ac-count of the civil proceedings

pending over the girls' future. The Official Solicitors' Department, which is representing the girls because they have now been made wards of court, said that it was not unu-sual for criminal and civil proceedings to be running in tan-dem. An official said: "Where, for instance, you have a childabuse allegation, you can of-ten have a judge at the same time trying to grapple with whether a child should be placed in care." Mr and Mrs Bramley disap

peared from their home last September just before they were due to hand back the girls, who are half-sisters, to social workers. They had been told that they would not be able to adopt them.

The couple reappeared in January when it emerged that they and the girls had been livpending a decision by the High Court on their future. ing in "good-quality accommo-Harry Fletcher, assistant



Jeffrey and Jenny Bramley, who now face two court hearings over the fate of the two girls they have fostered

dation" in a caravan on the west coast of Ireland. The couple were told that they could keep the girls temporarily

general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, expressed concero last night that the bring ing of criminal charges could prejudice the outcome of the adoption inquiry. "This is highly unusual and does not appear to fit into any of the usual categories for abduction," he said. These are: child sex offenders who are jailed; disturbed women who seized babies and would receive psychi-

atric help; and parents in "tug of love" cases where the abduction was normally dealt with courts. "None of these would seem to be appropriate here,"

Teacher suspends son for drinking

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A HEADMASTER has suspended his own teenage son for drinking during a school trip. Emyr George, 15, was one of the three pupils on a residential music course caught drinking lager smuggled in from an off-licence.

The two boys and a girl, the daughter of a senior education authority official, were de-scribed as being "in high spir-its" when they were caught. They were among a group of 80 young musicians attending a weekend course at the Og-Bridgend in South Wales.

Arwel George, their head-master, suspended the trio for three days. The suspension was backed by governors at the Penweddig Comprehen-sive School ar Aberystwyth in west Wales.

Mr George said yesterday: "I have dealt with my son in the same way I would with any other pupil. He was suspended for three days but is now back in classes and the matter is over. Justice has been seen to have been done."

Examiner punched by driver taking test

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

appear before magistrates in Peterborough, on April 8. They were interviewed by

police in January on their re-

18 weeks in Ireland.

turn to Britain after spending

The couple have been grant-

ed temporary custody of Jade,

5, and Hannah, 3, pending a

High Court hearing about their future. Now it is likely

that criminal proceedings will

be heard before that hearing.

The maximum penalties un-

A LEARNER driver who believed that he had failed his driving test punched and kicked his examiner in a fit of rage, a court was told yester-

Outraged at his failure after 12 months of lessons and an earlier test, Gareth Wandless cut short the test and drove towards the test centre in Newbury, Berkshire, at up to twice the legal limit.

Magistrates in the town were told that Frank Johnston, the examiner, slammed on his dual control brakes yards from the test centre, whereupon Wandless, 18, punched him in the face, got out of the car, opened the passenger door and repeatedly kicked him. Barry Kochanek, for the

prosecution, said that Wandless, who admitted the assault on February 26, then fled as a test centre assistant came to the examiner's aid.

Michael Davis, for Wandless, told the court "Taking a driving test is always a difficult time. There is bound to be tension. Gareth knew things had not gone well and he had an inkling that he had not passed his test. It would appear that he and the driving ex-

ammer did not get on."

Sentence on Wandless, the eldest of four children living with his mother in Newbury. was adjourned for reports. He said after the hearing: "I should have just walked away. I looked down and saw three big crosses. I have spent hundreds of pounds on lessons and have had at least three different instructors. I think I am going to give up now."

Life for bungled second offence

By PAUL WILKINSON

A BANK robber who was caught after obeying a clerk's instructions to sit and wait was jailed yesterday. Andrew Buckland was given a mandatory life sentence for a second violent crime.

Judge David Swift said that his "incompetence and inefficiency" did not exempt him from the Crime and Senteneing Act 1997. Buckland, 30, has a previous conviction for possessing a firearm with intent. The judge imposed a minimum sentence of seven years and Buckland will remain on licence for life.

Minshull Street Crown Court, Manchester, was told that Buckland, carrying a hidden toy gun, went into the Barclays branch in Stockport last June, intending to grab as much cash as he could. He gueued for the counter and produced a note that read: This is a robbery, give us your money. I've got a gun." He had signed it with his own name. It was written on the back of a letter from his local authority, bearing his name and address. The clerk said: Will you take a seat sir, we

will deal with you in a mo-ment," and summoued police **Buckland** denied attempted robbery and having an imitation firearm but was convicted after a trial last mouth.

Bunty Batra, his counse saidthat Buckland had had domestic problems. liament did not intend that defendants who go into a bank with a toy gun and a note with their name and address on should get a sentence of life

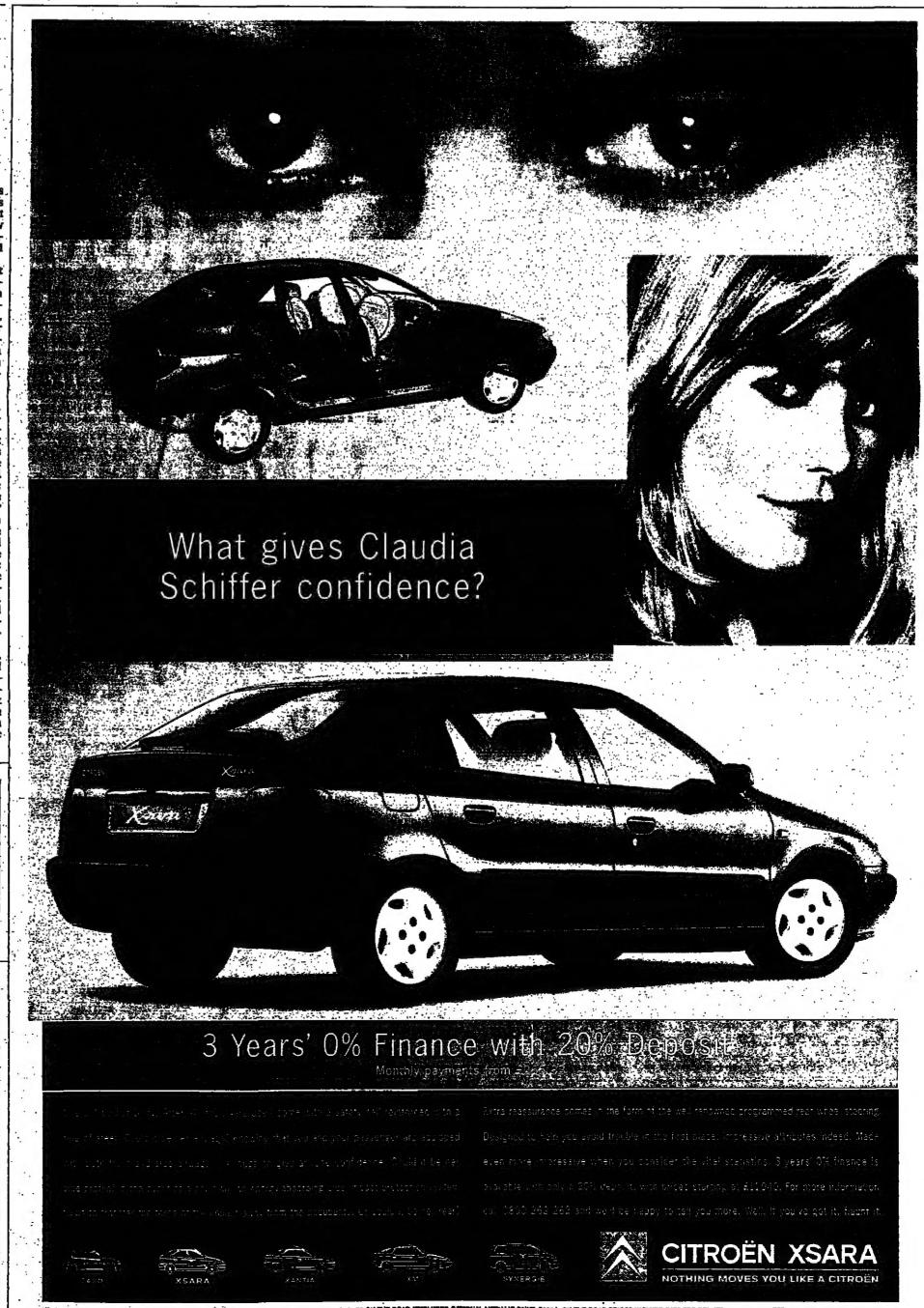
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A LOVING husband turned cold against his wife because he believes she has been replaced by an impostor, a court was told yesterday. Alan Dayies is convinced that his real wife of 31 years died in a car crash and he now refuses even to hug the woman who still shares his life.

Mr Davies, 52, was awarded £130,000 damages yesterday after it was claimed that his rare medical syndrome was caused by the crash that he and his wife, Christine, 50, both survived.

The husband suffered minor injuries and shock and his wife had whiplash. But he has flashbacks of his wife screaming and lying dead. In his psy-chological condition, known as Capgras Syndrome, pa-tients suffer a break in the link between areas of the brain responsible for visual recognition and emotional response. and the mind tries to rationalise it by concluding that a fa-miliar face has been replaced by an impostor.

After the crash in September 1995, in which another driver cut across the couple's car, Mr Davies, from Rhon-dda, South Wales, has been

mechanic

frightened

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

and some home.

dents in Liverpool.

Parker said: "I saw eight guns

pointing at me. I heard a dou-

ble click. I thought: I'm dead."

Hampshire police, who are to appeal, claimed Mr Parker

had exaggerated his probiems. A spokeswoman said:

There is no evidence that he

cannot tolerate being in other

working environments."

S 5

Husband wins £130,000 after courts hears of rare syndrome, reports Simon de Bruxelles

forced to give up his job as a craft teacher at the Tonypandy Comprehensive School.

His wife, whom he now calls Christine II, told the High Court in Cardiff: "Before the accident he was an extrovert, very spontaneous and emotional. He was sociable and animated. Every day when we got up for breakfast he would say 'Good morning. I love you' and would give me a kiss. We would go out a lot and had a very happy sex life.
"Our only contact now is
when I give him a hug, but he
doesn't respond. He doesn't

want to talk about anything. case was put in court, Mr Williams's insurance company of-Only our old friends come round because only they know fered £130,000 plus costs. not to get upset when Alan Mr Justice Maurice Kay gets up and leaves the room said: "This is a sensible conclusion. It has been a tragic case but the right outcome has been

> The couple declined to comment as they left court, walk-ing several feet apart.

line Davies, 29, said: "Before

the accident my dad was the life and soul of the party. Now

they don't interact any more. Dad is constantly stressed by any show of affection."

been prescribed medication but did not always take it: "I

have good days and bad days but I still believe my wife has

died. We have discussed di-

vorce but she doesn't want to." Dr Sudad Jawad, a consult-

ant psychiatrist, told the court: "When they came to see me he

never acted as though he was

sitting next to a real person. Af-

ter two years of treating Alan I

came to the conclusion that his delusion is fixed and will sadly

driver, Thomas Williams, 55,

for loss of earnings and dam-

ages. Mr Williams, from Aber-tillery, near Newport, admit-ted liability for the crash but

denied causing the psychiatric problems. After Mr Davies's

Mr Davies sued the other

never go away."

Mr. Davies said that he had

Capgras Syndrome is named after one of two French doctors who identified it in the 1920s. It can be brought on by severe depressive illness or a head injury. A leading authori-ty, the psychlatrist Dr David Enoch, said: "It is one of the rarest psychiatric illnesses in the world. The victim is usually a man who is under the delu-



£135,000 for | Health officers found meal by police hard to swallow

BY SIMON DE BRUXEILES, WEST OF ENGLAND CORRESPONDENT

A CAR mechanic has been un-THE banquet laid on by a hoable to face work since the day he emerged from beneath the vehicle he was working on to tel for environmental health officers left them distinctly unimpressed. The next day the be confronted by eight policemen pointing guns at him. Graham Parker was award-Webbington Hotel, near Westou-super-Mare, was raided by council inspectors who reed £135,000 compensation ported it for breaching hyagainst Hampshire police vesterday. He was not in court to giene regulations.

The 260 officials from hear the award because he had suffered a panic attack around Britain had expected feast that would be the high-Salisbury Crown Court was light of a conference on air told that Mr Parker, 35, from ality held by the National Portsmouth, had suffered Society for Clean Air and Enpost-traumatic stress since the vironmental Protection. First they were told the chef had forincident in 1993 when police, eotten to take the salmon mistakenly believing him to be mousse out of the freezer and an armed criminal, surroundthere would be no starter. ed him outside his house as he When the main course arrepaired a car that had been linked to two firearms incirived they refused to eat it. They complained about the At an earlier hearing Mr wine and that the service was

poor. When the time came to pay the bill they refused.

The embarrassed host, Piers Furlong, chief environmental health officer with the Sedgemoor District The meal was a disaster. The salmon mousse never arrived because it was still frozen. The

main course was appalling I couldn't eat it, and the wine was not very nice. It was extremely disappointing for premises of that standard. It's a shame because I have had

some very good meals there." Mr Furiong says the next day's inspection was coincidental, a claim the hotel's manager, Sanjay Kantaria, finds as hard to swallow as frozen salmon mousse. Mr Kantaria said: "It was surprising they sent two inspectors instead of the normal one and the inspec tion took four hours instead of the normal 20 minutes."

The hotel has agreed to waive the bill and Mr Kantaria said: "We admit that a junior chef made a mistake which meant we could not serve a starter but we acted responsibly in not serving something which could have been a health risk. There was no problem with the wine or service."

that the hotel be cautioned for the faults. The hotel's solicitor said that these were minor and had soon been corrected.

3.03%



Fake fur and hipsters: Dolce e Gabanna are tired of creating everyday wear

Kitsch and colour collide on the Milanese catwalk

Lisa Armstrong sees Dolce e Gabanna present a tongue-in-cheek show, complete with Day-Glo coats and lime python boots, designed to surprise rather than sell



THE chilly Milanese rain beat down on a tungsten-lit marquee that had been erected a couple of days earlier in the courtyard of the Via San Damiano headquarters of the fashion designers Dolce e Gabanna. Scores of crimson and pale coral roses bloomed round ponds filled with goldfish and lit with flickering church candles. A rustic scene of artfully chipped chairs and tables set with Parmesan and loaves rested mid-catwalk, bunches of grapes drooped atmospherically about the

The scene was Sicily, Domenico Dolce's birthplace and the source of much of the duo's creative impetus. The time was the feast day of Madonna — Madonna. Mother of Christ that is, though it could have just as easily have been the diva.

Dolce e Gabanna's Sicily is part Fellmi, part Roberto Rossellini and part Carry On, hence the sheer mantilla cloaks worn over semi-transparent leggings (something of a trend, worrying-ly) in the show's finale. Hence too, the nipster "peasant" skirts, fashioned from nylon shaggy fur, and the roughly finished cropped sheepskin jackets worn with very low-cut, beaded hip-

It is all deliciously tongue in cheek and some of it is no doubt destined to end up in a fashion museum as a monument to late 20th century kitsch. How much of it will sell is another, probably irrelevant, question since so much

of the designers' turnover is fuelled by accessories, scent and pictures of Madonna the diva in their frocks.

The heavily beaded fluorescent yellow plastic mini raincoat, a beaded orange plastic belt doubling as a skirt, and the lime python boots with mirrored heels ("so you can sit down and put your make-up on while staring at your heels') were particularly fine examples of fashion as a photo-op and to hell with the dreary business of making clothes women can wear every

chunky multicoloured coats and jackets that were made from goat that had been made to look like monkey hair, were some dazzling pieces. Beaded capris and belts will tempt the rock star brigade while the long, Day-Glo coats with bracelet sleeves that were worn over those leggings will look rather elegant when they are made up in the inevitable black.

Before they unveiled their catwalk collection yesterday, Stefano Gaban-na, 39, and Domenico Dolce, 41, announced that they were becoming tired of the fashion system, which they declared onerous and oppressive Those addicted to the pair's inimitable brand of corsetry-dressing will be relieved to know, however, that the length of their show (which comprised 150 outfits) suggested they were not thinking of shaking off their shackles any time too soon.

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	£10.00 - £99.99	1.50%	1.51%
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Universities offered cash bait for poorer students

Budget increase will provide thousands more places in higher education, reports John O'Leary

a 5 per cent "premium" for every student they recruit from poor areas to try to ensure that an extra 45,000 higher-education places go to groups under-represented on campuses.

A £75 million budget increase has enabled the Higher Education Funding Council for England to exceed the Gov-ernment's plans to increase the number of students. Most of the new places will be on sub-degree courses, largely in further education colleges. A E20 million fund has been set aside to broaden the range

of people going into higher ed-ucation. Students from underprivileged homes are the priority but the aim is also to in-crease the number of part-time and mature students.

The council has surveyed the postcode of every full-time student and given some univer-

Sharps

UNIVERSITIES are to receive sities more than £400,000 as an incentive to attract students from poor areas. Of the 76 universities, Derby, Huddersfield. Luton, Sunderland and Staffordshire will benefit most from the "premium". Even Oxford and Cambridge, which artract a high proportion of stu-dents from affluent homes, will receive about £150,000 each. As a result of changes to the

Oxbridge funding system, the funding council's budget of £4.216 million for 1999-2000 includes £36 million previously paid direct to the Oxford and cambridge colleges. Extra funds to reward high-quality work and to maintain historic buildings have helped to ensure that both of the ancient universities receive a funding increase this year close to the rate of inflation.

University College London and Luton University will re-

THE WINNERS AND LOSERS University College London Kang's College London SHALLEST B Queen Mary & W Tharnes Valley

ceive the biggest year-on-year rise under the settlements announced yesterday. Exeter University and Queen Mary and Westfield College, London, which had poor research assessments, and Middlesex and Thames Valley universi-

ties, which failed to meet last year's recruitment targets, re-

University College London: biggest budget increase

ceive the lowest settlement. The settlement for Thames Valley, whose vice-chancellor resigned after a critical inspection report, is conditional on submission later this

month of a plan to tackle aca-demic and financial problems. Brian Fender, the funding nouncil's chief executive, said that extra money would be available to tackle previous underinvestment in university buildings and equipment.

Lack of PE

turns pupils

into couch

potatoes'

BY HANNAH BETTS

BRITAIN'S children are becoming a generation of couch potatoes as physical education is sidelined by the demands of

the National Curriculum and a lack of funds, the National Association of Head Teachers

Association of rieau teathers said yesterday.

A survey of more than 2,000 schools by the association high-lighted problems ranging from poorly maintained play-

ing fields to a decline in inter-school competitions.

Forty per cent of primary schools and a fifth of second-

ary schools said that that

David Hart, the associa-

tion's general secretary, said:

"Sports facilities in too many

schools are not that much de ter than those in a banana re-

public. Unless the Government is prepared to push this

issue to the top of the political

agenda, we will see this coun-

try's youngsters turn into a generation of couch potatoes."

Charles Clarke, the Schools

Minister, said: "The Government is providing £1.1 billion for capital works in schools. in-

A British deep-sea diver be-lieved drowned in the Persian Gulf may have been extended in a double murder. Robert Glazzard, 28, and his New Zealand colleague Aaron Harper were found in the sea in January, two weeks after they went missing from their ship off Dubai. At the time the authoriries made no mention of possible foul play but when the bodies were returned to their native commies, pathologists dis-covered both men had throat

injuries consistent with having been garrotted.

At an inquest in Rockdale, Mr Glazzard's home town, police said murder squad detections and the constant of the the California. tives would fly to the Gulf to make further inquiries. The inquest was adjourned.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Divers may

have been

garrotted

Suspect released

The last of five people ques-tioned in the past week by Irish detectives investigating the Omagh bombing has been freed. He was released without charged after three days interrogation at Monaghan police station.

Arctic ice thins

Parts of the Greenland ice sheet are thinning by more than a metre each year, Nasa scientists have found. They be lieve that the ice is sliding increasingly quickly into the sea, causing a faster rise in sea levels than melting alone.

Ferry holed

The Stena Explorer, ferrying more than 300 people and 70 cars from Anglesey to Dun Laoghaire, was believed to have been holed below the waterline when it hit a pier wall while attempting to dock in Ireland. No one was hurt

Pedigrees forged

A Lincolnshire dog breeder sold dogs that she falsely claimed had Kennel Club ped-igrees. Jill Allen, who admitted forgery and trying to obtain money by deception, was bailed at Nottingham Crown Court pending sentencing.

sports programmes had deteriorated. Half of the primaries and a third of the secondaries, blamed their obligations under the National Curriculum. Murder charge

man has appeared before Loughhorough magistrates charged with murdering Rachel Glenn, 15, whose body was found in Charnwood Water, Leicestershire. Anthony was remanded in custody.

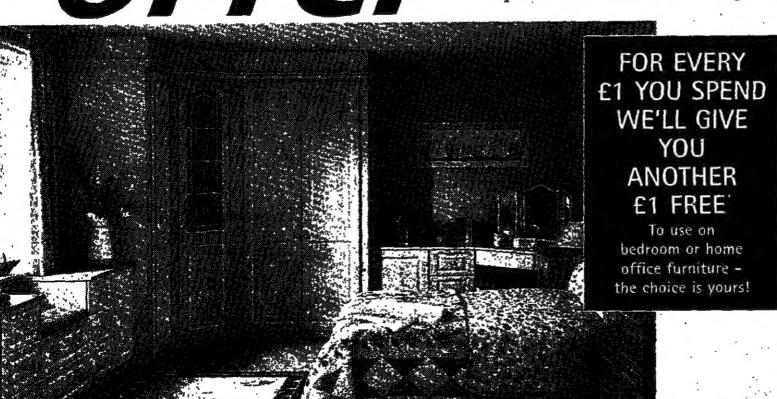
Licence refused

A former racing driver wh lost an arm in a crash has fail ed to convince magistrates in Swindon that he is fit to drive Donald Day, 64, who steers with his knees while changing gear, was appealing agains the revocation of his licence.

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order before March 11th. 0800 23 22 2

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THE TIMES FRIDAY MARCH 5 1999 Giant body to head sale of the millennium

THE 90st body that will domi-nate the Millennium Dome is to be the prize lot in a huge sale of the exhibition's contents when it closes at the end of 2000.

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VIEW HERS

Theme parks, museums and those who have everything are expected to bid in excess of £10 million for the gicess of EIU million for the grant sculpture of a man and woman embracing, which houses the Body Zone. The exhibit, which is as tall as Nelson's Column, features an interactive tour of bodily functions from heartheats to hangtions from heartbeats to hang-

The sculpture could be sold abroad or to a private individual who would be under no obligation to open it to the public, even though it is part-funded by lottery money. The successful bidder will have to invest further in a building to house it: the body, designed by Nigel Coates and made of glass-reinforced concrete, is not weather-

Other exhibits, such as the Mind Zone designed by Zaha
Hadid, and the Spirit Level,
which has attracted controversy for its lack of Christian content, will also be for sale. Only two zones will not be available: the rights to the Mobility and Communication zones will be retained by their spon-sors, Ford and BT, though both are likely to remain on public view.

The Dome's attractions, including the central show, will cost £191 million out of its total budget of £758 million, with £400 million coming from the

National Lottery.
The New Millennium Experience Company (NMEC) will not say how much is being spent on individual zones but the Body Zone is understood to be one of the more expensive at more than £10 million.

"All the assets of NMEC will be up for sale," a spokesman for the company said.
"Art galleries or museums will

All the Dome's contents can be bought at the end of next year,

reports Mark

Henderson be able to acquire internationally famous icons of cultural

NMEC plans to sell the con-tents individually and it is not envisaged that any will remain within the Dome.

The future of the Dome it-

self, which cost £300 million to build, will be decided by an international competition launched yesterday by Lord Falcon-er of Thoroton, the Government's shareholder in NMEC. More than 1,000 companies have been invited to make bids and the final decision will be made next year. Early suggestions include a conference or shopping centre, a sports stadium, a theme park or a film There will be no reserve

price but working accounts suggest that it will go for at least £50 million. It will not necessarily be sold to the highest bidder: the competition will take into account how proposals will contribute towards the regeneration of the Greenwich

Greenwich Council will also have to grant planning permis-sion for the new use, following a full public consultation. Permission was granted for the Dome itself on the understanding that it would be environmentally friendly; the ban on car parking was one con-

Lord Falconer said: "Wewant a fitting use for the Dome that preserves its design integrity, in keeping with

its role as a centrepiece of the millennium celebrations. We are determined that the Dome should not be a one-year

The Government is more concerned with ensuring that the Dome proves an appropri-ate legacy for the millennium than recouping its building costs, he said. With maintenance work every 25 years, it

could last "for generations". The money raised will be di-vided between English Partnerships, the Government regeneration agency that owns the site on which the Dome is built, and NMEC. If NMEC's share of the cash brings it into surplus, that money will be handed to the Millennium Commission to distribute in its normal way, while money paid to English Partnerships will replace part of its grant from the Treasury.



Lord Falconor of Thoroton said yesterday that maintenance work every 25 years could ensure the Millennium Dome could last "for generations".



Australia turns down day of fame in Dome

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

IN A gesture that would make called the "World Stage". So far 199 of the 209 local education authorities in the United tralia has declined the offer of a day in the Millennium Dome to showcase its arts, his-

tory and civilisation. The Australians have informed the exhibition organisers that it would take at least two days to do justice to their long list of cultural achieve

A nation a day is being invited to Greenwich as part of the "Our Town's Story" exhibition, which is being spon-sored by McDonald's, the hamburger restaurant chain. The Foreign and Common-wealth Office has assigned a civil servant to work with the organisers, the New Millennium Experience Company, to persuade countries to join in. South Africa, the United

States, France, Canada and Japan have so far said they would like join the storytellers in the Dome, on what will be

on cultural opportunity

Kingdom have signed up to send a delegation.

The £50 million National Programme for the millenni-um exhibition is being launched today by Michael Grade, the chairman of the Dome's creative review group. A new initiative, Reach for the Sky, aimed at helping teenagers to make career choices for the next millennium, is being amounced, with sponsorship from the broadcaster BSkyB. It will give 1,200 people aged 14 to 16 the chance of four days intensive work experience in science and technology, the environment, journalism, sport, enter-tainment or the community.

Other elements of the National Programme include FutureTalk, SchoolNet 2000 and the National Skills Festival. The organisers claim every-

one can take part. Children can get involved by joining the 6,000 schools that have already registered to enter the "Voices of Promise" contest to compose a song for the millennium. They can also join the 13,000 schools involved in the Tesco SchoolNet 2000 Internet "Domesday Book", which will go live in the Dome next year.

Everybody over the age of nine can get a free e-mail address from BT as part of the Future Talk initiative, which aims to improve communicacontribute to their community's "Our Town's Story".



more feature length dramas from March 8th



'Peace will not come. There's evil out there'

TEN weeks after loyalist gunmen murdered her 26-year-old son, Ann Trainor voted Yes in the referendum on the Good Friday peace accord in the hope that no other families would have to suffer. She would not vote that way now. "I will never vote again, never," she said yesterday.

Since the referendum, 243 terrorists have been released from prison but not one gun has been surrendered by the main paramilitaries and there has been no end to the violence with which they cow and control their communities. The accord has been paralysed for months by the IRA's refusal to disarm and the Unionists' refusal to admit Sinn Fein to government until it does.

The prisoner releases were 'the hardest thing to take'. Mrs Trainor said. The paramilitaries were giving nothing in return. 'They will not give up their arms, neither the loyalists nor the IRA. We would all love peace but I don't think there'll ever be peace. There's an awful evil out there."

Her son Damian, a Catholic, and his best friend, Philip Allen, 34, a Protestant, died a year ago this week when two masked gunmen burst into the Railway Bar around the corner from Mrs Trainor's house

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A year after their

sons were shot, two women regret support for Ulster

accord, reports

Martin Fletcher

in the Co Armagh village of Poyntzpass. They ordered the seven customers to lie down and opened fire. On Wednesday night the villagers packed into St Joseph's church for a memorial service but "the pain will never get easier", said Mrs Trainor, who visits

her son's grave daily.

Revulsion over the atrocity spurred the Province's politicians to produce the peace accord but Mr Allen's mother, Ethel. who lives opposite the bar. says she too wishes she had voted No because she "can't stand to see the prison-

ers released early".

Both women have particular reason for finding the releases abhorrent. If the men charged with their sons' murders are convicted at their imminent trial, they will qualify for early release after two

Dixons

years. More worrying for the Government is that a clear majority of Unionists now share the disillusionment with barely a month for resolving deadlock over decommissioning. In a BBC poll, 41 per cent of Unionists support the accord, down from an estimated 55 per cent in the referendum. Less than a third would support David Trimble, the First Minister, if he formed an executive with Sinn Fein without decommissioning.

The Government has abandoned hope of transferring power to a new executive next Wednesday. Amention is instead shifting to St Patrick's Day celebrations in Washington on March 17, when President Clinton will meet party leaders individually. He is expected to tell Gerry Adams and Mr Trimble that the Province will pay a heavy price in lost investment and support if the accord collapses.

Mr Blair and Bertie Ahern, the Irish Taoiseach, would become intensely involved in the search for a solution by the month's end. Officials shudder at the idea of this Good Friday arriving with the accord still unfulfilled. There will be even less chance of reaching a compromise with the approaching marching season la



Ann Trainor visits the grave of her son, whose death spurred the accord. If the accused men are convicted, they will qualify for release in two years

and the campaign for June's Euro elections which Ian Paisley will turn into a second referendum. Ireland's referendum vote to abolish its constitutional claim to Northern Ireland lapses on May 22 if the ac-

cord is unimplemented. At the end of this month Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, may force the issue by effectively instructing the Assembly to form the executive. She published draft proce-

and the second s

dures on Tuesday that provide for a three-hour adjournment between the Assembly convening and the parties nominating their ministers to allow for a gesture from the IRA. That way, decommissioning and

the executive's formation could happen virtually simultaneously and neither side could claim to have "won".

Without such a gesture, Mr Trimble would almost certainly seek Sinn Fein's expulsion

from the Assembly on the grounds that it was still wedded to violence. The nationalist SDLP would reject that, in which case Mr Trimble would probably demand a review of the accord's implementation.

Irish DPP to challenge

IRA killers' sentences

By AUDREY MAGES, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

IRELAND'S Director of Public Prosecutions is to challenge the sentences handed down to the Brixton prison escaper Pearse McCauley and another senior IRA member for killing a garda.

Eamonn Barnes has lodged an appeal against the 14-year sentences handed down after McCauley and Kevin Walsh pleaded guilty last month to the manslaughter of Jerry McCabe, a detective garda shot during a bungled IRA raid on a post office van in Adare, Co Limerick, in 1996.

Adare, Co Limerick, in 1996.

McCauley, Walsh and two other men were originally charged with capital murder, which carries a mandatory 40-year sentence. But when key witnesses refused to testify, Mr Barnes was forced to reduce the charge to man-

The maximum sentence for manslaughter in Ireland is life imprisonment but three judges in the Special Criminal Court declined to impose it. Mr Barnes served papers on McCauley, 34, and Walsh, 42, this week, telling them of his decision to take their sentences to the Court of Criminal Appeal. The case is expected to

be heard after Easter.

Mr Barnes does not believe that the judges sufficiently onsidered, the central role played by the pair in the killing of Mr McCabe, who died in the hail of bullets from a Kalashnikov rifle fired into the unmarked police car accompanying the post office van. McCauley and Walsh, who is believed by gardai to have fired the rifle, were also given concurrent sentences for maliciously wounding Detective Garda Ben O'Sullivan and for possession of firearms with in-

tent to commit a robbery.

But sources said that Mr
Barnes was particularly unhappy that the judges did not

penalise McCauley, from Strabane. Co Tyrone, for killing McCabe while on bail pending an extradition hearing. McCauley is wanted in BritReith ke

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McCauley is wanted in Britain following his 1991 escape from Brixton prison while on remand for allegedly conspiring to murder. He fled to Ireland, where he was arrested in 1993 and sentenced to seven years in jail for possessing a gun and ammunition. He was freed in 1995 as part of the early release scheme after the first IRA ceasefire but was rearrested within seconds on a British extradition warrant. He jumped bail while awaiting extradition proceedings and linked up with Walsh's IRA unit in Munster.

Irish government sources insisted yesterday that Mr Barnes was acting independently and not under the direction of Bertie Ahern, the Taoiseach, or John O'Donoghue, the Justice Minister.

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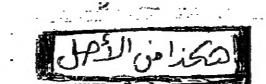
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Vanessa staff sacked over fake guests

By Elizabeth Judge

THE BBC has sacked three members of staff from The Vanessa Show over allegations that fake guests appeared on the programme.

A fourth received a formal

warning and was moved to another department and a freelance worker had his contract terminated as a result of a three-week investigation.
The daytime talk show host-

ed by Vanessa Feltz features traumatised guests making emotional confessions. It has been under attack since reports last month alleged that researchers had booked actors from a London agency to pose as members of the public.

A programme on domestic, violence featured a "battered wife" who was really an un-married actress and two strippers who had never met were recruited to play feuding sisters. A London businessman claimed that he was paid £100 for each guest he supplied to

The BBC immediately sus-pended five members of the team, two producers and a re-searcher and launched an in-

The corporation also introduced new measures to stop fake guests appearing on chat shows. Guests must now provide identification and sign a declaration that states that their contribution will be "entirely honest and truthful".

LORD REITH, the first Direc-

tor-General of the BBC, had a

mental hate list that included Winston Churchill, Earl Mountpatten, Field Marshal Montgomery and the philose

pher Bertrand Russell, his daughter has disclosed. Reith's personal animosities are detailed by Marista Leish-

man in an entry in The Dic-

tionary of Scottish Biography. Mrs Leishman describes her

father as an impossible man

who was highly ambitious and kept a mental list of hatreds

born in rivalries going back to

the early days of the BBC. Churchill clashed with Reith, head of the corporation

from 1927 to 1938, over how the

A BBC spokeswoman said:



come under attack

"The investigation has not un-covered any evidence to prove that staff knowingly booked fake guests." She added that no other members of the Vanessa team would be questioned. The staff are not being named because they have 14 days to appeal against the de-

A number of "confessional" shows and documentaries have recently been exposed as fake. Bogus guests have also appeared on ITV's rival pro-

gramme Trisha.
Last week Channel 4 was fined £150,000 by the Independent Television Commission because it broadcast a doc-umentary about young rent boys in which key scenes were faked. In Too Much Too Young: Chickens members of the production team posed as rent boys and their clients in three scenes. Channel 4 admit-

terial posts during the war years, he felt that the Prime Minister was unreceptive and

unwelcoming towards him. Of the other names on her fa-ther's hate list, Mrs Leishman

said yesterday. "It was just a clash of very big personalities and rivalries." There was, she

insisted, no vendetta against those on the list. "My father

was a fair man and it was very

Lord Reith, who died aged 81 in 1971, was obsessed with

work at the expense of his fami-

to feel that it hadn't actually

"You didn't converse with Lord Reith. You listened respecifully, trying from time to time to poke in your bit - only

Mrs Leishman said that

much a personal stance."

Feltz: her show has

ganised deception took place.

Another Channel 4 programme, Daddy's Girl, was not shown after it emerged that the subjects had fied about their relationship. Carlton was fined £2 million

in January for showing The Connection, a documentary about the Colombian drugs trade that contained fake

The Independent Television Commission has written to in-dependent and satellite broadcasters demanding reassurances about the authenticity of confessional shows

Last week, following the claims about The Vanessa Show, the BBC governors is sued a statement expressing serious concerns about standards. "The board will not tolerate fakes masquerading as





Hunt for American mother and girls

yesterday to help to find an American mother who warished with her daughters after allegedly telling them their father had died in an accident.

Kathlene Shafer-Imhoff was divorced from her hus-band, Lars, a year ago. She fled with Alexius, 6, and Kathlene, 5, after a visit in July. Lawyers for Mr Imhoff sought help in Britain because his former wife was arrested on a charge of theft in New-port, South Wales, in Janu-ary. She disappeared after-

Sean McNally, solicitor for the father, said Mrs Shafer-Imhoff was a "Scarlet Pimpernel who uses disguise to avoid

old secretary may be travel-ling with her mother, Lonna Shafer, a businesswoman based in Switzerland. Mrs

Shafer-Imhoff also uses the names Kathlene Anderson and Ashley Anderson.

Mr Imhoff, 38, a welder from North Dakota, has custody of the girls. At the High Sumner appealed for the public to watch out for them. Mr McNally said: "They do not attend school to our knowledge. They lead a peripatetic life with a mother who has told them their father is dead." Anyone with information is

usked to contact 0171 242 2877

FRANCENS EN EDDOS BSSUNIANO. it least;

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BBC organised its coverage. Though Reith was given minislodged anywhere." Make bathing a pleasure not a chore, with Dolphin Easy Access

Reith kept 'hate

list' in his head



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Westminster as a tourist attraction could founder on peers' objections to a proposed £6.50 admission charge

An estimated 160,000 extra visitors are expected in August and September next year if the proposals by Commons au-thorities are agreed. This would be half the 320,000 tourists who flock to Buckingham Palace over ten weeks each

But many peers are set against the move, which would give the public an insiders' view of the Commons while MPs are on holiday. They believe people should get in for nothing. One senior peer said: "We are going to fight this. In principle, we feel that entrance should be free."

If the plans to charge for entry are defeated, it is unclear whether the proposals to open up the building to tourists would survive. MPs and peers would have to decide whether they could afford to spend thousands of pounds of taxpayers' money to cover costs.

MPs think the charge is acceptable to enable more people to see the home of Britain's democracy. The Commons is expected to back the plans when they reach the floor of the House just after Easter. But peers have put off making any decision until the summer.

The plans, scheduled to come into effect in the summer of 2000, would allow the pub-

500

But peers' protest

against charges could end move to boost tourist

numbers, writes **James Landale**

minster during the eight-week August and September recess. Tickets would be bought from a new booth in Victoria Tower Gardens just beyond

lic to visit the Palace of West-

the Lords' end of the building on the Thames embankment. Adults would pay £6.50; OAPs, students and the unemployed £4; and children £3.50. The not-for-profit scheme is expected to break even after five Visitors, armed with audio-

guides, would start in the Lords and visit the Queen's Robing Room before passing through the Royal Gallery and the Prince's Chamber to the peers' Chamber. After walking through the Peers' Lobby. the Central Lobby, and the Members' Lobby, they would enter the Commons Chamber and Division lobbies.

After passing through St Stephen's Hall, they will then be able to see Westminster Hall, the huge room and original chamber saved from the

The Office Superstore

COPIER PAPER

the buildings in 1834.

A new range of souvenirs items such as Lords' baseball caps and oven gloves are already available - would be on sale. Guides would answer

to be agreed by the Lords Ad-

At least 70 per cent of visitors are expected to be overseas tourists. Existing arrangements for visitors will not be changed. Some 200,000 members of the public come to sit in the Strangers Gallery of the

queries.

The proposals have been

backed by the Commons Administration Committee, Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, and Peter Jennings, the Serjeantat-Arms. He said: "In my view, it is important that the Palace of Westminster is open for people to see either the political process or the Barry and Pugin extravaganza."
But the proposals have still

ministration and Works Committee. "We do know that some members in the House of Lords have reservations about charging members of the public to come in," one Commons official said. Another said: "There is vociferous opposition within the Lords, particularly among crossbenchers, and the plans could be a further source of conflict between the two Houses." Some MPs are also opposed: 62 signed an Early Day Motion against the plans.

Commons chamber a year.

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In tune: the singer Patti Boulaye with William Hague after the Tory leader unveiled her yesterday as a potential Conservative candidate for the new London authority. Miss Boulaye, who must now be officially selected, said she wanted particularly to win over the black and minority vote.

While most obtain tickets from their MPs, some queue for hours outside the Palace, Another 150,000 come as MPs' guests to take a tour round the so-called Line of Route.

Even if the scheme is backed, the Palace of Westminster will still be relatively low on the list of London's top tourist attractions. Top comes the British Museum with 6.1 million visitors a year, followed by the National Gallery with 4.3 million visitors.

Leading article, page 23

ROUGH GUIDE TO THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

Five things you must see: 1. Tony Blair's frontbench seat in the Commons Chamber

2. The gilded and awe inspiring splendour of the House of Lards. 3. Madam Speaker, Betty Boothroyd's 4. Westminster Hall, where Sir Thomas More and Charles I were tried and sen-

tenced to death. 5. The Terrace overlooking the Thames and Westminster Bridge. The best place for an avening drink in London.

Five things you may not know:

1. Spencer Perceval was the only British. Prime Minister assassinated there (in 1812). 2, No one can ever be declared dead there cause Parliament was once a Royal palace. MPs and peers who do die are de-

clared dead on arrivel at hospital.

3. William Wallace was hanged, drawn and quartered in New Palace Yard. 4. The modern Palace is only 150 years old. 5. After the Restoration, Cromwell's body was exhumed and his head was placed on a pole on the Commons roof for 20 years.

Five things you won't see:

1. The Wince Offices the most secret of se cret places in the whole of Westminster 2. The Lords' rifle range where Old Labour MPs met researchers for lifet assignations. 3. Agrie's Bar: iamous holbed of intriger and gossip, now pale image of former self. 4. The showers where Ron Brown, the former Labour MP for Edinburgh Leith, was caught with his researcher. 5. The old cell hidden under the Big Ben

clock tower where unruly visitors used to be incorporated by the Serjeant at Arms.

Olympics chief tells MPs of vote scandal damage

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S leading Olympics official yesterday admitted to MPs that the "cash-for-votes" scandal had been "damaging

in the extreme". 🛴 Craig Reedic, one of the two British members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), reiterated that no decision would be made on whether London should bid for future Games until a new system for selecting host cities had been put in place. Mr Reedie said he was hopeful that the IOC meeting in Lausanne, which will decide whether to expel members found to have received favours from bidding cities, would "begin the process of re-establish-

ing" the movement's credibility. At the meeting on March 17 and 18, the IOC is also expected to agree a new selection process and to give a vote of confidence to Juan Antonio Samaranch, its president, who has been ignoring worldwide calls to step down. Four members have already resigned and several more may be recommended for expulsion when the IOC completes its

own investigation.

Mr Reedie told the Commons Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee that "allegations made against a number of IOC members are damaging in the extreme. I am aware that the process of resolving that causes constant public debate. That in itself is

damaging."
Alan Keen, Labour MP for Feltham and Heston, told Mr Reedie, who is also chairman of the British Olympic Association, that the scandal had caused anger among sporting enthusiasis. Several members pressed Mr Reedie on why the IOC did not act sooner, given that rumours about corruption had circulated for years. He said that the disclosures about Salt Lake City securing the 2002 Games were the first definite evidence.

Mr Reedie will be voting in Lausanne but the Princess Royal, the other IOC member in Britain, will be on a longscheduled Far East tour.

Gerald Kaufman, the committee chairman, said the solu-tion was 'no gifts of any kind, bowever small, down to a Tshirt, no hospitality of any kind, gift of any kind, including an economy air fare or grade three hotel ... anybody accepting any gift of any kind from the IOC to be sacked and anybody caught offering any-thing of that kind automatical-ly to be disqualified."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tories are 'sidelined' by boycott

GORDON BROWN called the Conservatives a "marginalised sect" yesterday after they went ahead with their threat to boycott the first meeting of

a cross-party group oversee-ing preparations for the curo. The Chancellor said that the Tories were "denying choice to the British people". Their motto is to be unprepared," he told cheering Labour MPs in the Commons. John Bercow, Conservative MP for Buckingham, said Mr Brown was trying to drag Britain into the curo "with a cost that he won't calculate, for a benefit he cannot quantify at a risk to the British people which he dare not admir.

Leading article, page 23

Benefit tax move Treasury plans to tax child benefit for higher earners were backed by the Social Security Select Committee yesterday. It found that there was a powerful case for making higher-rate taxpayers pay tax on the child benefit they receive, in line with proposals set out by the Chancellor in last year's Budget However the MPs insisted that any revenue raised should be ring-fenced for improving child benefit rates, in contrast to Mr

Watchdog to rule on Serps payouts

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT WHITEHALL EDITOR

THE Parliamentary Ombudsman is to decide within six weeks whether the Govern-ment mishandled changes to the state pension scheme which could cost widows up to

E2,500 a year.

Michael Buckley could recommend that the Department of Social Security should compensate those affected. The point at issue is that the Government did not highlight changes to the state earnings related pension scheme (Serps) which would halve the payment to widows from April next year. Women whose husbands die before then will continue to receive the full payout given to their spouses, but after that date widows could lose £2,500 a year.

Stephen Timms, the Social Security Minister, said that individuals had to prove their financial decisions were detrimentally affected in order to claim from existing compensation arrangements.



THE TIMES & DILLONS FORUM in association with The Word

Times readers are invited to a rare evening with John le Carré, one of Britain's bestselling novelists, on Sunday, March 28, at 7pm.

Introduced by the Editor of The Times, Peter Stothard, the internationally acclaimed author will talk about his life and work, and read from his latest novel Single & Single. If you would like to ask John le Carré a question, please e-mail johnlecarre@the-times.co.uk. For more details visit The Times/le carré website at www.the-times.co.uk/lecarre.html.

The event, which forms part of The Word literary festival, will be held at the LSE Peacock theatre, Portugal Street, off Kingsway, London WC1. Tickets cost £9 and can be booked on 0171-863 8222.

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Alaska stays cool as chronically ill win the right to get stoned

end for the dope smokers of Alaska. In a major step forward for a national legalisation campaign. Alaskans with permission from their doctors may now own up to three flowering marijuana plants and an ounce of the drug in smoke-

Alaska's medical marijuana law went into force yesterday despite stiff opposition from the state governor and other top officials. Passed after a campaign funded alFinancier Soros championed campaign for some doctors as well as legions of ex-hippies. It covers a thinly policed region larger than the homegrown cure, Giles Whittell writes

cious police.

na without fear of arrest. It also

requires the state to set up a regis-

ter of users' names and issue iden-

tification cards to ward off suspi-

Though similar to measures al-

ready passed in California, Wash-

ington, Oregon, Arizona and Ne-

vada, the Alaskan law could prove a turning point in a nationwide cru-sade backed by film stars and

criminalises the drug for critically ill patients who say that it soothes their pain and boosts their appetite. In practice, critics argued, it has legalised marijuana at a stroke over an area nearly the size of Western Europe.

The new law allows sufferers of most entirely by George Soros, the Hungarian-born financier, it decancer, glaucoma, Aids-related ill-

other five states combined, where the freedoms of an increasingly crowded frontierland are jealously defended and the marijuana is as

potent as any in the world.

Identification cards for legal users of the drug have not yet been is-sued even though the law was approved by 60 per cent of the state's voters in last November's election. Police have so far taken a conciliatory approach to its enforcement.
"Nothing could be worse than to

Alaska's deputy commissioner of public safety, said after the election. Police are now establishing new protocols for asking suspects why they need the drug.

In 1975 the state Supreme Court ruled that possession of small amounts of marijuana, even for recreational purposes, was allowed under a privacy clause in the Alaskan constitution.

Declared illegal again in 1990, marijuana has nonetheless betients across America.

In his guise as a philanthropist. Mr Soros backed California's 1996 medical marijuana initiative and paid \$126,000 (£78,000) towards gathering signatures and advertis-ing for the Alaskan initiative last year. Government efforts to undermine the medical marijuana drive have foundered in the courts and the media.

Dan Lungren, the California Attorney General who vowed to prosecute dope-smokers whatever their illness, became a national laugh-

toon strip. Later in 1996 an attempt by the Clinton Administration to remove the licences of doctors who wrote chits approving marijuana use by their patients was struck down in a federal court.

The American Medical Association has refused to endorse marijuana as a therapy for grave illnesses, but sufferers claim that it lacks the side effects of prescription drugs. As one Alaskan with Aids put it: "Sure, I'm stoned for half an hour, but that's something I can live with."

Pilot in cable car tragedy is cleared

ROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME AND IAN BRODLE IN WASHINGTON

with shock and anger to the ac-quittal of a US Marine pilot on all charges of reckless flying when his jet sheared a gondola cable above an Italian ski resort, killing 20 people just over

a year ago. Massimo D'Alema, the Italian Prime Minister, who is visiting the United States, described the verdict as "disconcerting" and "baffling". The Italian leader said he would like to know the reasoning be-hird the judgment and added that he would seek clarifica-tion from President Clinton today on whether further legal steps were possible in the US. If those accused are not guilty then we would like to know who is," Signor D'Alema said.

A court-martial jury of eight officers cleared Captain Richard Ashby, 31, an officer with an impeccable record, on 20 counts of involuntary manslaughter, dereliction of duty and other charges that carried a maximum penalty of 200 years in prison.

Lories a:

The verdict, after a fiveweek trial at Camp Lejeune, with outrage by Valdo Spini, chairman of the parliamenta-



Captain Ashby arrives at court to hear the verdict

defence committee, who said: "The blood froze in my veins when I heard it." Italian authorities had wanted the four-man crew of the

but the Pentagon whisked them out of the country, citing America's right to hold any trial in the US under Nato treaty provisions.

Signor Spini said that the London Convention, under which servicemen have the right to be tried in their own countries, needed to be revised "otherwise this is the kind of verdict which we will get".

He said that the families of the victims and the MPs who represented them would continue to search for the truth. Someone must be to blame, and if it is not the US crew, then who is it?" he asked.

The court-martial prosecution accused Captain Ashby of "flat-hatting" — aviation slang for reckless flying — during the 42-minute training flight. They said he violated the mission's speed limit of 517 mph and the altitude restriction of 2,000ft. The jet, travelling at 621 mph, cut the cable 370ft above the valley floor.

But in an embarrassing admission, the prosecution agreed that the ski lift was not shown on maps issued to Captain Ashby and his crew. The defence argued that even a

highly experienced pilot could not have missed hitting the cables after veering the plane suddenly into the ski area. Expert testimony showed that an optical illusion caused by the mountain terrain could have made him think he was flying higher than he really was.

Mauro Gilmozzi, the Mayor of Cavalese, the mountain resort where the disaster occurred, said he was appalled. This is a profound injustice, an affront to common sense and an insult to the families of those who died," he said.

There is no doubt in any of our minds that the US pilots were to blame. Their recklessness caused the deaths. They were flying criminally low. We had warned time after time that an accident was going to happen because of these low flights through the valley."

The skiers who died were from Italy, Germany, Belgium, Austria and The Netherlands. Lawyers for their families are seeking damages from the US Government. The Cavalese cable car recently resumed working, and the resort has tried to put the deaths behind it in the current skiing



The scene of devastation left by the cable-car disaster, above, damage suffered by the



DiCaprio in \$45m suit over fist fight

FROM JAMES BONE

THE Titanic star Leonar do DiCaprio has been served with a \$45 million (£27 million) lawsuit by a screenwriter who claims the actor incited a friend to hit him in a row over his girlfriend, the actress Elizabeth Berkley.

Roger Wilson, also an actor who used to sing on Broadway and fronted his own rock band, says he had to abandon his singing career after he was punched in the throat outside a Manhattan restaurant by one of Mr DiCap-rio's friends. He alleges that the star instigated the attack by shouting: "We'll go kick his arse." A lawyer for Mr DiCaprio rejected hutely false". The jealous quarrel be-

gan when Mr DiCaprio met Miss Berkley, who played a stripper in Showgirls, at the premiere of his film The Man in the Iron Mask. Through intermediaries, he tried to invite her to dinner but was rebuffed. Two days later Mr Wilson went to the Manhattan restaurant to tell the actor to lay off. Mr Wilson was allegedly surrounded by eight members of Mr DiCaprio's enjourage and he was punched. Mr DiCaprio was later seen sporting a black eye. The suit also



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Refore set for trius

Iraq sets deadly missile ambush for allied pilots

Saddam's jets trying to lure no-fly zone patrols over hidden Sam and rocket sites, writes Michael Evans

IRAQI fighter pilots are trying to lure British and American aircraft over hidden surfacethe daily confrontations now taking place over northern and southern Iraq, George Robertson, the Defence Secre-

tary, said yesterday.

Mr Robertson highlighted the dangers which confronted the British and American pilots, as both London and Washington faced condenu-ation from Iraq. China and Russia for waging what has been called an "undeclared war" on Baghdad.

Since Operation Desert Fox in December, when American and British forces struck at traqi military targets over four days, every infringement by Iraqi aircraft in the two no-fly zones and every attempt by Baghdad to shoot down patrolling coalition jets has been met with instant retaliation.

Yesterday Mr Robertson disclosed that in the past II weeks there had been 100 incursions into the no-fly zones by 150 Iraqi aircraft.

One of the aims of the Iraqi pilots. Mr Robertson said, was to try to draw British and American aincraft towards Sam missile sites as they turned round and headed out

of the no-fly zones. He told The Times: "Saddam has moved a lot of Sam missile and anti-aircraft artillery batteries into southern and northern Iraq and the Ira-



Robertson: "Iraqis made 100 incursions in 11 weeks"

pilots are trying to lure our pilots into missile ambushes." Particularly in the north, the Iraqis have also installed huge Russian-made BM21 multiple rocket-launchers which were designed for surface-to-surface strikes. However, the Iraqis have been using them for antiaircraft fire. Each one is capable of firing 40 210mm rockets in 20-second "ripples" over a

range of about 12 miles. Defence sources said that one of the results was that lethal rockets were coming down again and "hitting Sadd-

am's own people". Britain and the United States have denied that there is any secret war, insisting that every attack on Iraqi air defence sites and command

destroy lraq's oil export capaci-ty as part of a plan to destabilise the Baghdad regime. China yesterday con-demned the raids by the Amerand control facilities since icans and British, accusing them of increasing tensions. Turkey, which expressed concern about the damage to the pipeline, also urged all sides to end the stand-off.

In the largest strike since the renewed confrontations began, American FI5Es dropped more than 30 2,000lb and 500lb laser-guided bombs on Iraqi communications sites, radio relay stations and antiaircraft artillery facilities.

Desert Fox has been a response to provocation.

Speaking on the BBC Ra-

dio's Today programme, Mr Robertson said: "Saddam and

the regime are trying to kill

our pilots, and there have been 50 attempts and 50 threaten-

ing attempts on our pilots in

With Baghdad engaged in a strategy of provocation. Ameri-can and British aircraft have

now attacked more air defence sites than during the four-day bombings of Operation Desert

To meet the increasing threat from Iraqi missile bat-

teries, the rules of engagement

have been changed to allow

more flexibility in the choice of

target, with the result that com-

mand and control and commu-

nications centres have also

been hit. Mr Robertson an-

nounced the change in the

can attack on an Iraqi oil pipeline to Turkey a few days ago. He said communications facili-

ties had been targeted, but

part of the pipeline was also

Mohammed Said al-Sah-

hat, the Iraqi Foreign Minis-

ter, claimed in a letter to the

president of the United Na-

tions Security Council that the Americans were trying to

He also defended the Ameri-

Commons vesterday.

located in the area.

Simon Jenkins, page 22



Abdul-Raouf Rawabdeh, a confident of King Hussein and now to be Prime Minister

Hussein's ally returns in new King's shake-up

By CHRISTOPHER WALKER MIDDLE EAST

JORDAN'S untried new ruler, King Abdullah II, yesterday moved to stamp his mark on the running of the strategic desert kingdom with a number of key new appoint-ments, including a Prime Min-ister and a chief of the royal

Diplomats in Amman said that the appointments, an-nounced before the end of the official 40-day mourning peri-od for King Hussein, showed that the new monarch was determined to promote those loyal to the late King and to himself, rather than officials regarded as in the camp of the recently deposed Crown Prince, his uncle. Hassan bin

In the shake-up, the Prime Minister appointed while Hassan was regent last August during the late King's illness. Fayez Tarawneh, was re-placed by 60-year-old Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, a long-time proponent of King Hussein's liberal outlook, an experienced administrator and supporter of Jordan's 1994 peace treaty with Israel.

Even more significant in terms of power politics was the naming of a new chief of the royal court, traditionally the power behind the throne in the



Jordanian hierarchy and of particular importance because of the 37-year-old King's youth and inexperience of world di-plomacy and domestic politics.

The man appointed is the former Prime Minister. Abdul-Karim al-Kabariti, known as a close confidant of the late King's widow. Queen Noor, an enemy of Hassan and a polincian whose 1996-97 Government was renowned both for its criticism of President Saddam Hussein of Iraq and its determination to press economic

reforms in the face of public

Clashes with Prince Hassan were one reason for Mr Kabariti's dismissal as Prime Minister, but at the time senior Jordanians predicted that, should Prince Hassan ever be bypassed, he would make a comeback.

Prince Hamzah, King Hussein's eldest son by the American-born Queen Noor, was named as heir in King Abdullah's first decree - as request-ed by the late King.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Cook heads for Primakov talks

Moscow: On the last leg of his three-day trip to Russia, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, sets off today for the Black Sea resort of Sochi, accompanied by Igor Ivanov, his Russian counterpart, for a meeting with Yevgeni Primakov, the Prime Minister, who interrupted his holiday for the talks (Aring Blundy writes). They are expected to discuss Russia's chances of receiving another much-needed instalment of IMF money and co-operation in Kosovo. Despite potential tension over Kosovo — Mr Cook said that he was confident Russia would be "an honoured partner" in any post-case-fire implementation. be "an honoured partner" in any post-ceasefire implementanion force — the Foreign Secretary's visit has been character-ised by the vocabulary of friendship and "unity of intent".

Execution 'barbaric'

Boun: Germany condemned Arizona's gas chamber execu-tion of a German-born convicted murderer as barbaric and uon or a German-born convicted murderer as barbaric and criticised America for ignoring international treaties. Herta Daübler-Gmelin, the Justice Minister, said she believed the execution of convicts like Walter LaGrand, 37, executed on Wednesday for killing a bank manager in 1982, was used to help US governors to win re-election. "It is barbaric and unworthy of a state based on the rule of law," she said. (Reuters)

China moves millions

Shanghai: China will move another two million people in a new wave of relocations to clear the way for the giant Three Gorges Dam along the Yanguze River, the state-owned news agency Xinhua reported. The first stage involving some 1.3 million people began last year and is still under way. There have been claims that corrupt officials have failed to distribute relocation finds. The date of the first control of the first part of ute relocation funds. The dam, due for completion in 2009, will create a 350-mile-long lake. (AP)

War crime trial halted

Zagreb: Croatia's first war crimes trial relating to the Second World War was adjourned shortly after it opened yesterday when the defendant, a former concentration camp commander, Dinko Sakic, 77, right, was declared unfit to

Doctors told the court that the blood flow in Mr Sakie's brain was obstructed and his condition resume on Murch 15. (Reuturs)



Afghan foes to meet

Islamabad: Afghanistan's Taleban militia and its opponents have agreed to hold peace talks next week in Ashgabat, the capital of Turkmenistan, Lakhdar Brahimi, the United Nations special envoy, said. He urged the Afghan rivals to go to the talks with "a spirit of compromise and understanding, patience and a constructive approach". (Reuters)

Ming treasure found

A treasure trove of Ming-Dynasty porcelain, jade and gold has been recovered after a three-month operation of the coast of Brunel (David Wans writes). The operation, using minisubs and guarded by the Brunei Navy, yielded three or four boxes of treasure each day. There has so far been no word of the treasure coming on the market.

An FI5E taking off from Turkey on a regular patrol

Anwar lawyer wants police chief charged

Sri Rahim Noor.

BY DAVID WATTS

THE Anwar Ibrahim defence team raised the stakes at the Malaysian inquity into his beating yesterday by demanding that the former police chief who assaulted him be charged with attempted murder.

Noting that the police officer had "gone berserk", Karpal Singh, counsel for Mr Anwar, the former Deputy Prime Minis-

ter and Finance Minister, told the royal commission: "If not for the intervention of the two officers [who pulled him off Mr Anwar] he may have gone to the extent of murder. "Anwar was only a breath away from becoming Prime Minister. He may still be. But that is a different matter. would recommend a charge of attempted

murder on the part of [police chief] Tan

The government forsenic science expert who gave evidence at the inquiry last week has made clear that the blows Mr. Anwar suffered could have been fatal. Mr Noor's counsel said there was no basis for

a charge of attempted murder. Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, Mr Anwar's wife, said yesterday that police had interrogated her in her home over her appearance at a weekend opposition rally.

SOMETIMES

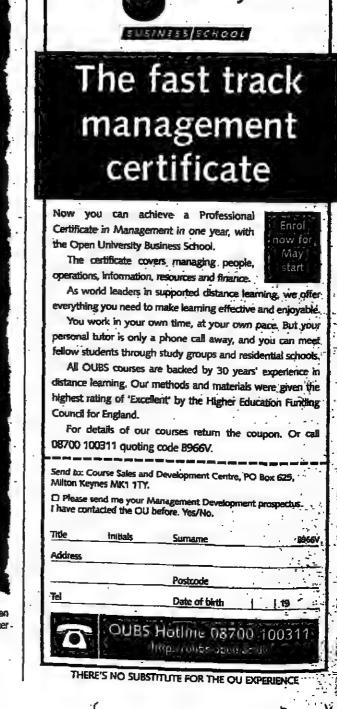
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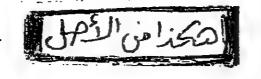


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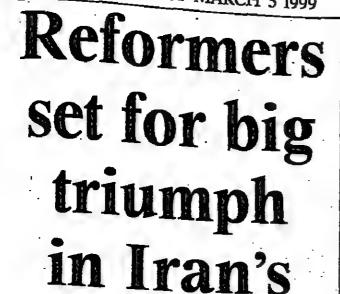
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local polls

REFORMERS President Khatami of Iran, including many women, appear set for a stunning victory in the Islamic Republic's first local elections, which have highlighted the waning influence of his hardline opponents. Moderates look certain to capture 13 of the 15 council seats in the capital, Tehran.

This is a turning point for Iran," said Sadegh Samii, a British educated publisher. The conservatives, who still control most centres of power, would have "to obey the peo-ple's croice", he added.

That remains to be seen, however. Despite his huge popular mandate, Mr Khatami's opponents have so far succeeded in sowing down the pace of his reforms and can be relied on to contest bitterly the erosion of their power.

Rubbing salt into the hardliners' wounds was the prominence of leading progressive candidates. The Tehran vote was headed by Abdullah Nouri, a ker Khatami supporter and former Interior Minister who was impeached by the conservative-dominated parliament las: year because of his support or greater social, political and cultural freedom. He is now well placed to take up the influential post as the Mayor of Tehran.

Mayor of tentral.

Hardiners even failed to take control of the holy city of Mashad, a traditionally con-



Khatami: his hardline foes will fight on bitterly servative bastion where reformists and independents were leading the vote.

The landmark election was about far more than filling seats on village, town and city councils. It was introduced by Mr Khatami to boost democracy at a grass-roots level and decentralise power that has been mainly in the hands of the clerical establishment since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Victory for the reformers will give them a strong power base from which to challenge the conservatives' hold on parlia-

ment in elections next year. This has set a precedent. People simply won't put up with hardliners attempting to vet moderate candidates as they have in the past," said a European diplomat.

A conservative screening body had attempted to block Mr Nouri and other prominent reformers from standing in last Friday's polls, but was overruled by the President.

The results, due to be finalised in the next few days, should also boost the role of women in Iranian society and politics. They led the polls in at least 20 cities, even though they made up just 5,000 of the 300,000 hopefuls contesting some 200,000 seats across the

country.
Fatemen Khatami, the President's 61-year-old sister, was the winner in the desert town of Ardekan, capturing nearly three times as many votes as

the next candidate. Third placed in Tehran, the most strongly contested city.
was Jamileh Kadivar, a former adviser to Mr Khatami and the wife of the popular Culture Minister. Ayatollah Mohajerani, another bete noire of the old guard.

Proof of the determination of Mr Khatami's opponents to demonstrate their anthority came just hours after the polls opened when they struck back by jailing Mohsen Kadivar, a leading liberal cleric close to the President.

His arrest on charges of slander and subversion caused uproar among reformists and led to street protests in his native town of Shiraz in the south of the country.

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Heroes of Iran's Islamic revolution are familiar symbols on the streets of Tehran

British car's Tehran twin rules the road

lah Khomeini's stern gaze is the most enduring symbol of the 20-year-old Islamic revolution, but for Tehran's motorists equally durable is the Paykan - a locally produced identical twin of Britain's long-forgotten Hillman Hunter.

Seven out of ten cars on the congested streets of the Iranian capital are Paykans, while once popular Chevrolets, Pontiacs and other chrome-bumpered hunks of Midwestern American steel have long gone the way of the Shah.

The Paykan's horse and chariot emblem is as immediately recognisable in Iran as the silver lady of a Rolls-Royce in Britain. There the comparison ends; the Paykan is to Iranians what the Trabant was to the East Germans, a basic but affordable means of transport

Beige and cream appear the most exciting colours on offer, while working seatbelts are regarded as an impecessary luxury by Tehran's steely-nerved taxi drivers. Paykan owners have a love-hate relationship with their cars; sometimes they accuse them of being outdated and uneconomical, but all are fiercely proud of the plucky vehicle

Iran relies on its Hillman Hunter. writes Michael

Theodoulou in Tehran whose character more than

compensates for a lack of sex

appeal, "I'll tell you why I prefer my Paykan to a Chevrolet." said Ali Reza, a bearded cabbie whose years negotiating Tehran's chaotic streets have left him looking as griz-zied as his 15-year-old Paykan is battered. "You can't get spare parts for a Chevrolet. But you can go to the smallest village in the middle of nowhere and a mechanic will know how to fix a Pavkan." Certainly the Paykan - it

means "arrow" in Persian is something of a success story for Iranian industry, which has worked hard to achieve self-sufficiency in the face of years of international isolation. "The one who has God with him is never alone," reads a sign in an assembly plant west of Tebran that produced 110,000 cars last year.

Some, less charitably, attribute the Paykan's success to a virtual ban on car imports that protects local production and conserves foreign currency. The locally assembled Peugeot 405s are snazzier, but three times the price.

Iran's state-owned Khodro Company began assembling the Paykan in 1967 from kits supplied by Hillman's parent company in Britain, the long defunct Rootes Motor Com-pany, later taken over by Chrysler UK, When that, in turn, was absorbed by Peugeot in 1989. Iran bought the British company's equipment and began producing the Paykan virtually on its own.

The car was due to be replaced by a more advanced model in 1978. but the Islamic revolution, which marked its 20th anniversary this week, gave it a new lease of life as international investment for joint ventures dried up.

However, the winds of change have caught up with the Paykan. It is to be phased out of production gradually as a more powerful and aerodynamic model comes on to the market in the next 18 months.

Yet with two million devoted owners, the old Paykan will be seen on streets here well into the new millennium.



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Yard joins FBI in the hunt for jungle killers

THREE Scotland Yard detectives flew to Kampala last night to help the Ugandan authorities to hunt for the Rwanda rebel gang who killed four British tourists.

The team is being led by Detective Superintendent Ken Woodward, a senior officer with the Yard's Organised Crime Unit. The team will work with Ugandan police and army units and liaise with an FBI unit which was sent out earlier in the week.

The operation has been organised by the Foreign Office. which will foot the bill. The trip was agreed after discussions between Kampala and London and earlier this week the Uganda High Commission issued visas in readiness for the team.

Detective Superintendant Woodward was head of the murder and serious crime squad covering the centre of London. He recently transfered to the Yard as one of the senior officers in the Organised Crime Unit which provides officers for investigations abroad as well as for major cases in London. The other two officers have not been



named. The team will advise the Ugandans on how to uncover useful evidence at the scenes of the killings and use it for possible prosecutions or identifying the killers. They may also help in taking state ments from survivors and will act as co-ordinators in Britain

for any Ugandan trials. Survivors of the attack may be key witnesses if the Ugandans manage to track down the gang and bring them back for a trial. British forensic science facilities could also be used to test evidence such as bullets, DNA traces and fibres. British laboratories are regarded as world leaders in many forensic science opera-

The speed with which the FBi sent two agents to help to investigate the murders in Uganda was the first test of its rapid response policy set up after the twin embassy bombings in East Africa last August. The pair arrived in Karnpala on Wednesday, two days after eight foreign tourists were hacked to death by Rwandan rebels. The agents were described by a US government of-ficial as specialists in terrorist kidnappings.

The lessons of the East African bombings, in which some 240 people died, were that the FBI needed more flexibility and expertise to react to acts of terror against American citizens anywhere. The FBI found there were delays in arranging inoculations for some agents, not to mention passports. There was a scramble to organise forensic science specialists from FBI laboratories.

The FBI needed specialists on terrorist intelligence to help



the overwhelmed Kenyan and Tanzanian police, as well as experts to handle secure communications. Eventually, the FBI had 500 agents on the ground in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam. Their presence contrib-uted significantly to finding some of the alleged terrorists who were swiftly extradited to America for trial and to identifying the terrorist network of Osama bin Laden as being responsible for the bombings. Bill Carter, an FBI spokesman, said yesterday that the agency's national security division had set up the rapid deployment teams as a counter-

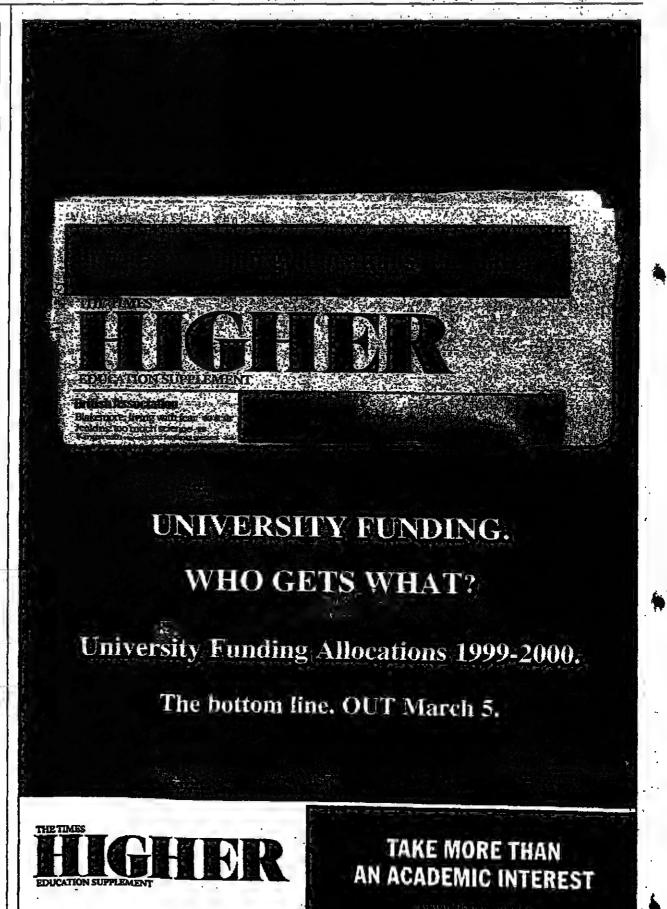
terrorism measure. They are prepared to respond within hours to be sent anywhere in the world to investigate crimes that take place against American citizens and others," Mr Carter said. "We have learnt the lessons of East

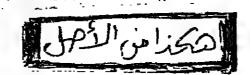




Ugandan troops, top, on patrol near Bahoma tourist camp in the Bwindi National Park, also knows as the impenetrable Forest. Yesterday the three tourist campsites, in clearings in a steep-sided valley covered in thick forest, still showed the signs of Monday's attack by Rwandan rebels. Among the blackened wrecks of four vehicles were sc belongings and pieces of paper, Woiverhampton Wanderers fixture scorched travel literature, left.







UGANDA MASSACRE

Husband grieves for wife who loved travel

By Richard Duce and Claudia Joseph

A SURVIVOR of the tourist massacre in Uganda arrived home yesterday to help to make funeral plans for his murdered wife.

Mark Avis and his wife, Rhonda, had planned to start a new life and family in New Zealand after returning to their home in Kent from their jungle trek. Instead, the bank worker will now start preparations to accompany the body of his childhood sweetheart to Auckland for a funeral service in her home town.

The body of Mrs Avis, 27, is expected to arrive at Gatwick Airport direct from Entebbe tomorrow, along with the coffins of the four murdered Britons. Her body will then be flown to

A cousin of Mr Avis, 28, who has dual British and New Zealand citizenship, flew to Uganda after Monday's massacre. They returned on a flight from Nairobi to Gatwick.

Mr Avis was still too dis-tressed to talk about the death of his wife, murdered by Hutu rebels from Rwanda while visiting the mountain gorillas in their rainforest habitat in Uganda during their two-

month holiday in East Africa. The couple had travelled extensively and the African holiday was to be a last, lengthy adventure before starting a family. Mrs Avis, a travel consultant, had told neighbours in Swanley. Kent, that the couple were eager to have chil-dren but had put off starting a family because of the many injections she needed to have for the trip to Africa. The two met



Mark Avis with his wife, Rhonda, who was murdered

church meeting in the Auck-land suburb of Milford and had been married for seven years. They moved to England

Mr Avis's parents, John and Sue, live in New Zealand. The Avises, along with the parents of Rhonda, are too upset to talk about the tragedy. A family friend said her parents were

son with a passion for travel. When her mum asked her recently if she was sick of travelling, she replied 'Never'."

Joanne Cotton, the British tour guide who was among the Britons killed, also had a passion for travel. She had been working for Acacia Expeditions, which specialises in adventure holidays, for nine grieving. Rhonda was a months. warm, selfless and caring per- Her parents, Roger and Irene Cotton, said yesterday that their grief had been eased by recollections of a recent farmily holiday in Zimbabwe, where Miss Cotton was based as a travel representative.

Speaking at their family home. Mr Cotton said: "We are deeply shocked by the tragic death of our daughter, Joanne. We take comfort that we recently spent two weeks with her in Zimbabwe, which we all agreed afterwards was the best family holiday we had ever had. Our abiding memo-ry of her is one of living life to the full and thoroughly enjoying her profession.

Miss Cotton, 28, is believed to have gone to Africa, where she drove travellers to tourist sites such as Nairobi, Cape Town, Victoria Falls and Bwindi National Park, where the killings happened, after leav-

ing the army.
Miss Cotton, who has a younger brother, was brought up in the village of Nazeing in Essex and attended Nazeing County Primary School, At II she moved to Sheredes School two miles away in Brox-bourne, Hertfordshire.

When her family moved to Australia in 1984, Miss Cotton went with them, but she returned to England the following year to live with her grandmother and joined her friends back at the comprehensive school. A keen photographer, she left school at 16 with seven CSEs to study graphics at Ware College, Hertfordshire.

Libby Mountford, a senior teacher at Sheredes School, said yesterday: "Joanne was a lively confident, outgoing girl who always had a smile and liked to chat. She was extro-

Missing Briton's family fears worst By AORIAN LEE AND ELIZABETH JUDGE been given stronger warnings by the Foreign Office.

THE family of a Briton kidnapped eight months ago on a gorilla-watching holiday in Central Africa said yesterday that they feared he was dead.

Donglas Kear, 66, was last seen in Augost when he was marched away at gunpoint from an area which, although in the Congo, is near the Bwindi National Park in Uganda, where eight tourists were massacred on Monday.

His family members said that they had not given up hope but feared the worst. Relatives said other tourists travelling to the area after his abduction should have

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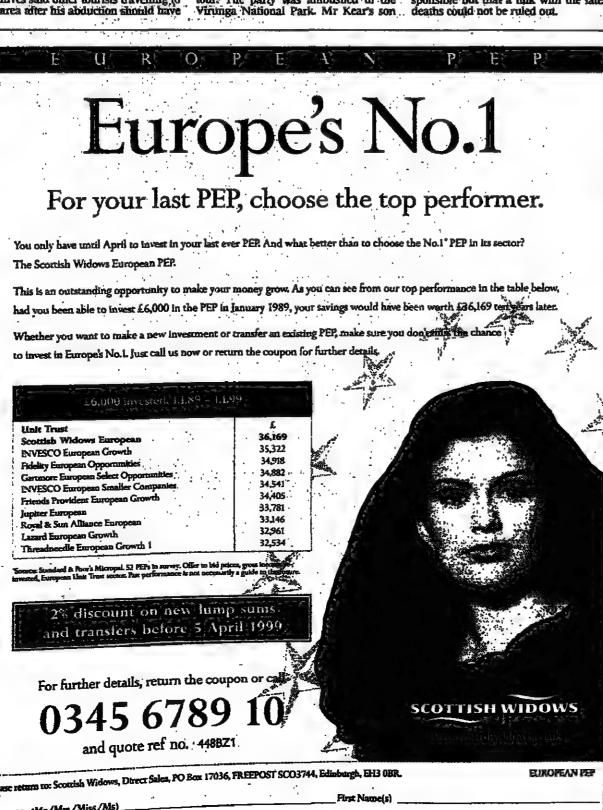
Mr Kear and a Swedish couple are believed to bave been seized by Rwandan Hutu rebels, also blamed for the latest deaths. His brother, Alec, 64, from Lydney. Gloucestershire, said: 'They were taken off into the jungle and we have heard nothing since." He said the family had been told by the Foreign Office to say

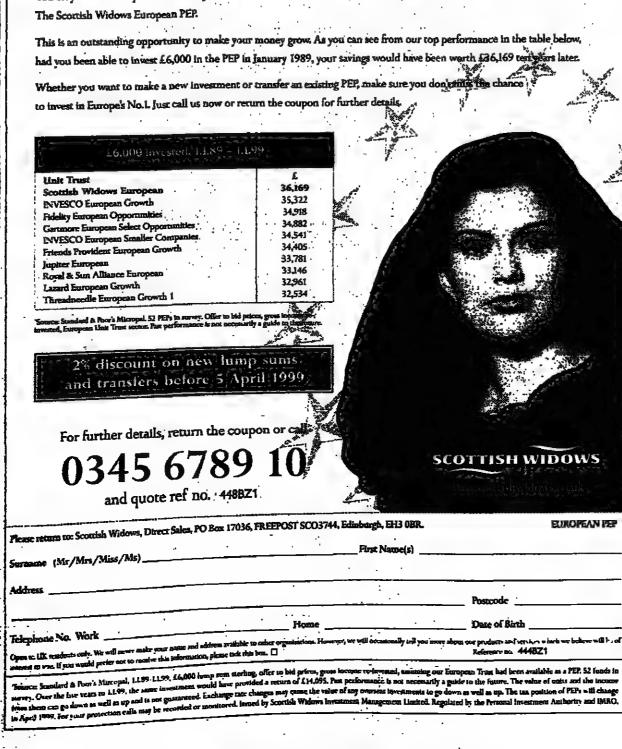
The missing Briton, who also holds a New Zealand passport and has lived there since 1971, was on a three-week tour. The party was ambushed in the Virunga National Park. Mr Kear's son

Martin, 39, who lives in New Zealand, sald: "There has been guerrilla activity in that region since 1994 and I was not surprised to hear of the kidnappings this week. When I heard of the horrific outcome I was appalled. It seems ridiculous that tours were still going to the same area after Dad went missing."

Mr Kear's family is being supported by Terry Waite, the former Beirut hostage. He has been a tower of strength to us," Mr Kear's sister-in-law, Averil, said.

The Foreign Office said last night that there was no evidence that Hutus were responsible but that a lank with the latest deaths could not be ruled out.





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Chinese call on leaders to atone for massacre

TEN years after the violent suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square, relatives and friends of those killed or injured have petititioned the National People's Congress to apologise for

the crackdown.

The defiant challenge to the state security apparatus was timed to coincide with the annual session of China's rubber-stamp parliament which was preparing to meet today

amid tight security.

The ghost of the Tiananmen massacre in Beijing on June 4.
1989, still haunts Chinese leaders even as they ponder widespread unrest and nationwide grumbling over official corrup-tion and millions of job losses in state-run industries.

The 20 petitioners, one of whom is Professor Ding Zelin. whose 17-year-old son was shot dead when the People's Liberation Army crushed the student protest, wrote: "As survivors of that event, we - the injured, disabled and families of those killed - have lived

through ten years of torment." In a telephone interview with The Times yesterday, Professor Ding said that her home was surrounded by security men and that she was told to return indoors. She expects she will not be allowed out until the People's Congress session ends in ten days.

James Pringle

reports on a growing public

disillusion with

Beijing's regime

President Jiang Zemin cracked down on dissent last year with long prison terms for those who set up a political party to challenge the Communist Party monopoly. He has promised to "resolutely nip in

the bud" any sign of protest at a time of growing disaffection. Mr Jiang and his Prime Minister, Zhu Rongji, the economics chief, are emphasising social stability, aware that Chi-na is afflicted with many of the same problems that led to the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Mr Zhu is clearly worried that the Asian financial crisis is causing the economy to slow, with falling exports, declining growth in retail sales and, tellingly, slow growth in electricity consumption.

But in spite of this downturn it was predicted that defence spending would rise to record levels to compensate the People's Liberation Army for the loss of its widespread business interests ordered last year.

Diplomats believe that China's leaders are worried about the boldness of opposition to their rule as the party fails to deliver on its compact with the 1,3 billion population,

after disastrous policies.

That compact is: "You let us rule, and we will let you prosper." One foreign diplomat here said: "Prosperity and laid-off workers are a contradiction in terms, and the political opposition - small though it is — is showing it cannot be browbeaten by stiff jail terms ... The leadership is showing every sign of being afraid of

Few here believe Beijing's claim that the economy grew 7.8 per cent last year, and ordinary Chinese for the first time openly express to foreigners their dismay about the Government and their future.

There are so many unem-ployed that the leaders may soon be unemployed," said a mechanical engineer in Kun-ming, Yunnan, who had been laid off and was driving a taxl. It is against this backdrop that it is impossible for China's leaders to forget the

massacre, Tiananmen Square has been closed for "renovation" and is surrounded by a high blue fence which will not be removed until July, well after the sensitive tenth anniversary of the massacre.



AN INDONESIAN student is sures ed by security forces during pitched battles in the streets of Jakarta yesterday, hours before a visit by Madeleine Albright, the US Secre-

Clashes broke out after about 300 soldiers and police tried to block a

Jakarta riots mar Albright visit shouting "Revolution now" as they marched two miles from the Salem-

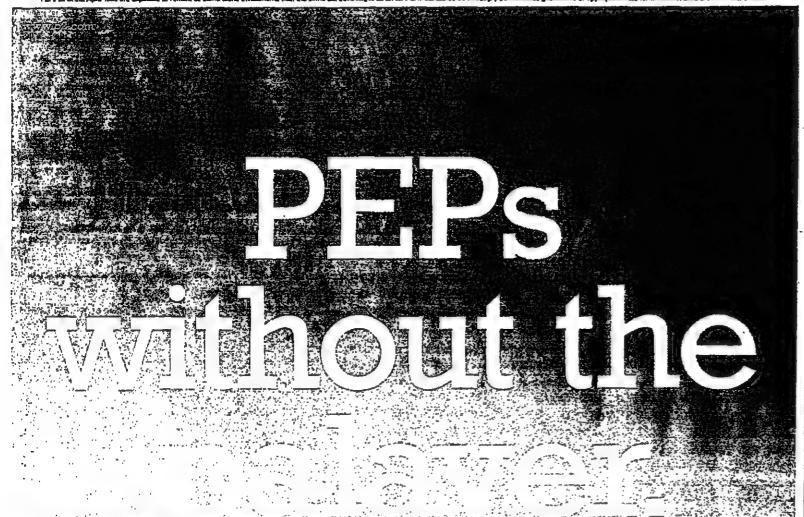
march by some 2,000 students calling for President Habibie to step down. Student leaders later claimed that dozens of protesters and six photographers and journalists had been in-

jured and 33 students had been arrested after troops waded into the

crowd with batons The demonstration had started in

ba Campus of the University of Indo-

The protesters were demanding that a transitional government be in-stalled until elections could be



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Defeated Khmer Rouge enjoys profits of crime

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PAILIN, CAMBODIA crime because of its bourgeois

THE surrender of the Khmer Rouge and the swearing of allegiance to the Phnom Penh Government have given the impression that the movement, responsible for killing 1.7 million, is fatally crippled. But analysts in the Cambodian capital fear that there might now be a Khmer Rouge

Trojan horse in their midst. Profiting from gem and log-ging concessions in their en-clave near Thailand, the Khmer Rouge is amassing wealth which it refuses to share with the Government.
One analyst said the Khmer Rouge of Pailin has not integrated the autonomous westem region with the rest of the country, and has not handed over a single cent from timber ests are threatened, the reconstituted Khmer Rouge of Pailin could put up a good fight." The fanatical political move-

ment that regarded using

toothbrushes as a capital

inference is now involved in mafia-style rackets. Brothels, karaoke joints and jungle casinos dot Pailin town. Even as the worship of Mammon thrives — with the

boom of discotheque music reboom of discotheque music re-placing the turgid anthems of hate — its rhetoric about de-lending the motherland re-mains unchanged. While the guerrilla group does appear to be seriously weakened, it has taken on a different identity. calling itself the Democratic National Union Movement Two of its most wanted leaders, former President Khieu

Samphan, 67, and Nuon Chea, 71, live in palatial bungalows protected by a minefield. The two who wrote the blueprint for one of the century's in December and the Government is now awaiting a United there is evidence to try them. But in the interest of peace

that leaders such as King Norodom Sihanouk say the country desperately needs, they were given a tour by Hun Sen the Prime Minister, and allowed to return to Parlin de spite calls for their arrests. The Khmer Rouge says any trial must bring to book all those responsible, including America and Vietnam. The underlying fireat is that if only in leaders were targeted. "It

would be war again".
"With so many forme Khmer Rouge now in the army, in theory it would be possible to seize power," said: one observer in Phnom Penh. But to this correspondent who has covered the bruta war in Cambodia, the bes chance for peace is for the toothbrushes, it would be diffi

cult to persuade the cadre

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THE SUNI

Germans prepare for 'most dangerous mission since the war'

GERMANY'S Defence Minister, Rudolf Scharping, gave a warning yesterday that the peacekeeping plan for Kosovo represented "our

most dangerous mission since the end of the Second World War". ln an interview with The Times, the minister said that the perils would be far greater than in Bos-nia and that German troops were

being given an extra five weeks of

training to prepare themselves.

Some 28,000 soldiers are to take

Bonn Defence Minister tells Roger Boyes

about risks of sending troops to Kosovo

part in the multinational Nato-led

likely to comprise 8,400 British and 5,500 German soldiers. The Kosovo deployment marks a histor-

ical breakthrough for Germany. Only after years of debate did it ac-Former Yugoslav Republic of Mac-edonia and the final contingent is likely to comprise 2 400 man cal, transport and signals staff. Kosovo is different. Heavy armour, including German Leo and British

Challenger tanks, will be moving in. Herr Scharping, who arrives in London on Monday for talks with his counterpart, George Robertson, says that the Nato mission in Kosovo will have three components: to protect the 1,300 unarmed monitors sent by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe: to implement a Kosovo agreement; and to verify and unch operations from the air.

Herr Scharping refuses to define

the mission as military interven-tion but plainly force may be needed at each stage. The agreement will entail the disarming of the Kosovo Liberation Army, protecting disarmed ethnic Albanians and supervising the withdrawal of Serb units. All these activities are poten-

tial flashpoints.

The air operations are, in essence, Nato's big stick. The threat of bombardment is the only real source of pressure on President Milosevic. "The experience of the past ten years is that Milosevic caves in only at the very last moment, so we need credible and intensive pressure," Herr Scharping said. German troops could expect to stay in place for the duration of

an agreement, at least three years". It is a measure of the changes in Germany that he could speak so openly about deploying troops. Last week he gained parliamenta-

ry approval for a Kosovo mission,

while the goal of the operation, which he defines as "avoiding new mountains of corpses and new waves of refugees", seems to be understood by ordinary Germans.

The only protests are likely to come from rank and file Greens, but they have never been so out tune with the national mood. Germany has turned away from its modern pacifist tradition and its instinct to draw into a shell when called upon to act.

Chirac's family falls out over Women MPs

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

PRESIDENT Chirac received an unusual and embarrassing put-down yesterday when his wife, Bernadette, publicly contradicted him over plans to feminise the French parlia-

In an interview, the famous-ly long-suffering Mme Chirac broke her traditional silence to oppose a government-sponsored proposal to impose quotas for women MPs. Her comments also amounted to an attack on her daughter, Claude - M Chirac's closest political adviser — and on the Prime Minister's wife, Sylviane Agacinskl, the brains behind the project. It was Mme Agacinski who convinced her Socialist husband, Lionel Jospin, to promote the so-called

mer Rouge

ts of crime

Mile Chirac who persuaded her centre-right father that he too had to support the project. But the President's wife told Le Figaro yesterday: "I cannot accept the idea." Mme Chirac rubbed salt into the head of state's wounds by describing him as a macho man with "a certain taste for provoking"

The implication is that his backing is a hypocritical manocuvre to improve his stand-

ing with younger voters.

The interview was all the more surprising since Mme Chirac has portrayed herself as a loyal housewife who looks after her husband and "has a strict duty "to avoid public pronouncements. But it may signal the start of a political offensive from a woman whose de-

parity legislation. And it was

Claude Chirac, left, the President's daughter, and her mother, Bernardette, who are at odds on reform plans mure public persona is far re-moved from the reality. Mme Chirac is a councillor in the Correze region and

yesterday she told the newspaper: "I have not abandoned hope of holding other posi-tions." Her criticism of the leg-islation may be a thorn in the presidential side, but it is an as-tute personal career move that will win her support among the centre-right electorate.

Many conservative voters are appalled at the Bill to promore "the equal access of men and women to public office". Although just 59 of France's 577 MPs are women, one of the lowest percentages in Europe, rightwingers want to encourage, rather than impose,

They say the Government's legislation will reduce voter choice. This view is backed by followers of the feminist icon, Simone de Beauvoir, who fear women MPs will become a category apart selected for their gender and not their talents. But Mme Agacinski believes legislation is the only means of reforming France's notoriously macho public life. Her husband and his left-wing Cabinet seem to have been given little choice except to agree.

If M Chirac had listened to his instincts, he would have blocked the parity Bill. But he listened to his daughter, who told him he would appear oldfashioned unless he threw his



Ex-lover accuses Dumas in Elf affair

ROLAND DUMAS, France's highest judge and former For-eign Minister, was yesterday dumped in a legal minefield by his ex-mistress in connection with an inquiry into alleged bribery at the heart of French public life. Christine Deviers-Joncour

told a judge she had bought M Dumas 12 Ancient Greek statues worth a total of Fr264.000 (£27,500) with money supplied by Elf-Aquitaine, the oil company. Her claim that M. Dumas knew the origin of the funds places him at the centre of allegations that Elf tried to buy government decisions in its favour.

In an interview published in Paris-Match yesterday, Mme Deviers Joncour made plain her intention to abandon the president of the French Supreme Court to his own fate. Having shielded M Dumas for two years, she now accuses him of lying. French justice has been



looking into claims that Elf gave millions of francs to Mme Deviers-Joncour in the hope she would influence M Dumas, with whom she had an affair in the early 1990s.

At one stage Mme Deviers-Joncour was remanded in custody for five months when It emerged that she had received a Fr59 million commission from Elf after the Goverament approved the 1991 sale of warships to Taiwan. But the inquiry was floundering, with no proof that the late President Mitterrand's Foreign Minister knew Elf was funding his mistress. Until now. Yesterday Mme

Deviers-Joneour said the former Foreign Minister had greatly admired the Greek statues that were on show on the day before an important auction in 1990. On the morning of the sale.

Alfred Sirven, a director of

Elf, arrived at her house with an envelope containing Fr300,000, she claimed. "Buy what you want with this money and surprise him," said M Sirven, according to Mme Deviers-Joncour. She said M Dumas knew of M Sirven's

visit and eash payment. Yesterday M Dumas's lawyers acknowledged he received the gifts, but denied that he was aware of who

Germany gives way on farm reform

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

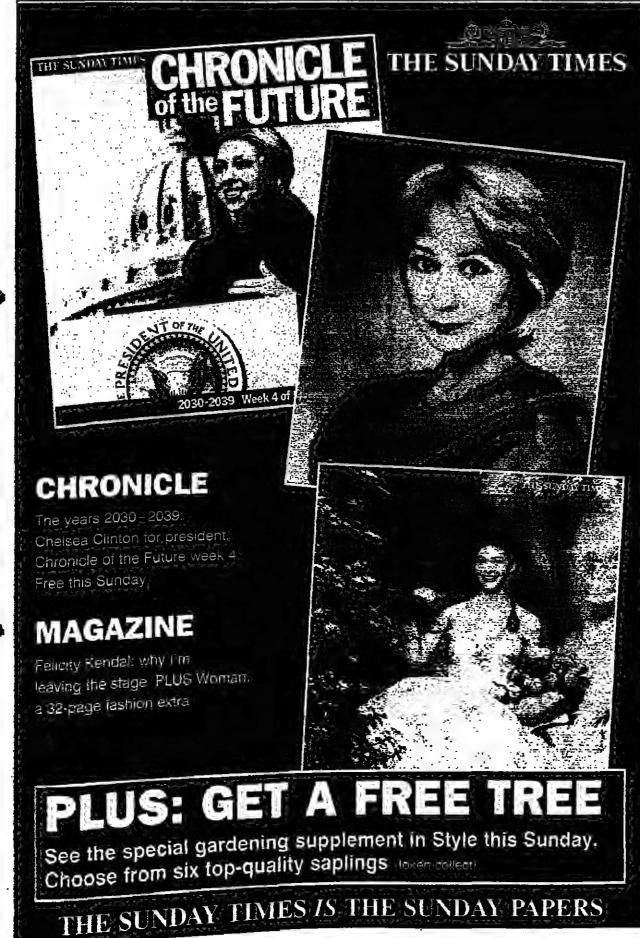
HOPES for settlement in the European Union's quarrel over spending reform rose yes-terday when Germany bowed to a central French demand on financing of the common agri-

cultural policy (CAP).

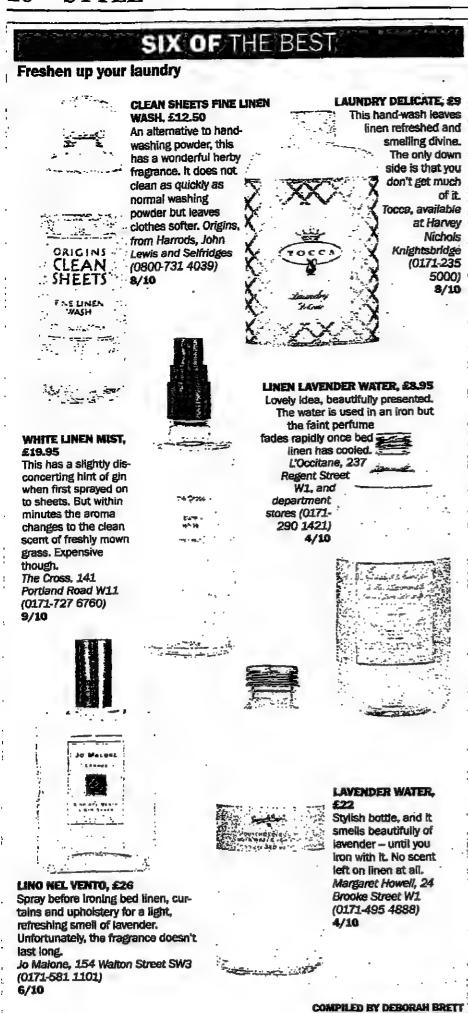
French ministers claimed victory when German officials conceded that they saw no point in continuing to press Paris to take responsibility for paying directly a share of the billions of pounds of annual EU subsidies which go to its

farmers.
France's refusal to accept
the German and Britishbacked scheme for so-called "co-financing" of the £30 bil-lion CAP has been a central sticking-point in the attempt to produce a new six-year budget package for the whole Union. EU leaders face a March 25 deadline for settling the package. The German climbdown cleared the air for farm ministers as they began their latest attempt to revamp the CAP in Brussels last night. Germany had tabled the co-

financing scheme as the best way to achieve its goal of cutting its own £8 billion net contribution to the EU budget. Bonn's surrender to France will help to repair strained relatons between the two core states of the EU, but it leaves untouched the key question of how the EU will carve up spending in an overall budget that is due to shrink in real terms. The farm programme, which takes half the budget, is at the heart of the reform effort followed by regional aid, which consumes a third.







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The secret is learning to pull the right strings

Drawstring pants are back. And if you want to avoid looking like a puppet, loosen up and let them hang around your navel

here is a generation of women for whom strings vanished from my life, mention of the word drawstring conjures a host of images, none of them compatible with high fashion. This is, roughly speaking, the generation that was reared on a television diet of Andy Pandy - that strange, androgynous puppet who jerked

about dressed in a shapeless Pierrot costume fastened at the neck, wrist and ankle with stiff, drawstring-tied frills. The same generation tends to have been educated at schools where domestic science departments were run by brisk, efficient women whose idea of a proper preparation for married life was a light hand

with a Victoria sandwich and the ability to sew a proper without getting it twisted.

I am a veteran of several JANE SHILLING drawstring ly on lengths

of gingham in my house col-our (bad-egg yellow). On shoe bags, sewing tidies and primitive attempts at skirts, the results were always the same: bunchy, amateurish and heavily speckled with needle-pricks of blood and tears of rage.

A bit later, it is true, drawstrings did creep over my fashion horizon, as the insecure fastenings of off-the-shoulder blouses in highly flammable cotton voile (I had a lovely one, in cherry-coloured embroidered organiza), and gypsyish ruffled skirts, decorated with tribal patterns of uncertain ethnic origin. Sooner or later the drawstring would always get caught on something and disappear up its own casing with the speed of a fleeing black mamba, and then you'd have to spend hours fiddling about with a little gold safety pin trying to coax it out again Years passed and drawreappearing sporadically at the waistband of a delectable pair of lacy-knit babies leggings, or in the oddly frivolous gathered ankles of soldiers' khakis. But suddenly my new Vogue falls open at a Min Min nylon skirt and top, gathered in elegant wrinkles on to a wholly delectable leather drawstring. Good gracious, Evi-dently it is time for me to get out my little gold safety pin

and the state of t

I didn't think that it was going to be easy. Drawstrings would be all very well if it were not for all the gathering in-volved. Bad enough when one is talking about some kind of long, trailing, romantic skirt. But as for drawstring trousers well, if there is a better way of adding six inches to one's waist and be-hind, I have

not yet discovered it. In fact, drawstring trousers, the more rebellious I feel. Perhaps, like

those huge, flat Mary Jane shoes with the strap across the thickest part of the instep, this may have to be one fashion to which I refuse to fall victim. Then, on my quest for a com-

fortable and elegant working wardrobe. I found myself trying on, more from a sense of duty than with any enthusiasm, a couple of pairs of drawstring trousers, one in navy canvas by Armani, and another in sand-coloured poly-ester by Donna Karan, and a kind of conversion took place. My error, it appears, has been to tie the string too tight, lashing it at the waist as though I expected a force nine gale to blow up. Hence the un-flattering bunching effect fore and aft.

Now, said the sympathetic clothes consultant who had taken me in hand, if I were to loosen the string a little, so that the waistline fell in a gentle curve just below navel lev-el. I would see a startling improvement. She was right. My Donna Karan strides, which as I had been wearing them misalliance between Marshal Montgomery and Mrs Arabella Bloomer, slunk down towards my hipbones. Worn with Warehouse's shoulder-buttoned khaki rib

T-shirt with a little buttoned pocket on the upper arm, the effect was of a sexy deserter from some hitherto unknown female offshoot of the French

Foreign Legion. ou can guess the rest. The spectre of Andy Pandy has been ban-ished and I simply can't understand how I put up for so long with the tight, un-yielding denim waistband of my jeans cutting into my tender midriff. I am probably too mean to buy drawstrings from Armani or Prada, but there are plenty of alternatives. At French Connection there is a good version of the military Donna Karan look, in sand or

white or sky blue are £45: ly unflattering trouser, there plain linen wide-leg pants are some admirably plain, rather Frenchlfied slate linening drawstring pants for £45 (avoid at all costs the print vertex). ant, French Connection has wide pants with a button fly and a drawstring waist in an extraordinary, but quite attrac-tive, sort of gold-brown sack-

At Laura Ashley, for a long time the home of the supreme-

(0171730 1234)

sion, which would infallibly turn anyone, however siender, into an elephant). A matching unlined jacket, like a French workman's jacket, is £60.

Warehouse has a brace of classic drawstring pants — in charcoal viscose jersey for £35.

or black polyamide (£45). fatigues are £38. And at Ware house, Andy Pandy's rebellious teenage offspring can find acres of drawstring pants at pocket-money prices, of which the most striking are probably the cropped fatigues, £28, and the polyester-mix pants in pale grey, black or air-force blue, with toggle ties at ankle and waist.



Strings attached: "How did I put up with unyielding denim waisthands for so long!"



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Bring on the rivals, I'm fighting for a spoil

ack Straw. Robin Cook. Frank Dobson, Alastair Campbell - these are some of the truly inspiring names of our age, names that have the power tospur all of us to reassess our lives and to wonder if maybe it isn't time to emigrate.

But what is it that makes them so unsatisfying? It's their ersatz quality. They're not the Real Mc-Coy. They are the political world's

version of the newspaper spoiler.

Spoilers are a newspaper's way of stealing a rival's clothes when it fears its own wardrobe might look wanting for example, this week, to tarnish The Mirror's scoop scrialisation of Andrew Morton's newbook on Monica Lewinsky, its rivals have done nothing to discourage their readers from believing that it is they who have secured Lewinsky's story.

page carried a picture of Lewinsky next to the promise: "We've got the FIRST interview." The Mirror, which began its serialisation only yesterday, has been so anxious that it has been running antispoiler spoilers of its own all week. with front covers suggesting that its inside pages contained extracts from Morton's book when, in fact,

they contained only articles about

the background to the book. In a similar saga last week. The Daily Telegraph published ex-tracts from Germaine Greer's sequel to The Female Euruch, which revealed that after 30 years of campaigning for leminist ideals, Greer is, astonishingly, still a woman. But Daily Mail readers must have been baffled by the Telegraph crowing about its exclusive, because their own paper was telling them how "In the first of a compelling new series today we reveal the sexu-

ai forces that shaped one of the ceners". What the Daily Mail was in fact publishing were extracts from an old. unauthorised biography of Greer by Christine Wallace.

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But whereas newspaper spoilers are criticised outside Fleet Street by people who think that they tell you everything you need to know about the jackdaw morality of jour-nalists, the human political spoiler

is actually running the country.

The human political spoiler gets to sit at Tony Blair's Cabinet table. He's given a Whitehall ministry to run; civil servants who will take the blame when their boss should have read an important report but didn't; and flights on Concorde. When it comes to running spoilers, politicians are the experts.

New Labour, we can now see, was nothing more than a spoiler designed to imitate the Tories and

ing allegiance. Tony Blair has diligently stolen every idea the Tories had, a task obviously made easier by the fact that the Tories didn't have many. As far as the Thatcherite creed of "One of Us" goes, Blair is more royalist than the king.

aving bagged the last elec-tion. Blair continues to deploy spoiler tactics.

Worried that a more electable Tory might unseat William Hague as Tory leader, Blair has activated a spoiling compaign by appointing Hague's likely rivals to run task forces, thus taiming them as new Labour sympathisers. Chris Patten has been co-opted to review the Royal Ulster Constabulary. Michael Heseltine is helping the Government to promote Anglo-Chinese trade. Lord Wakeham, the former Conservative leader in

Commission into the future of the Upper House.

The spoiler that makes new Labour tingle is, of course, Kenneth Clarke (Blair: "Why isn't Ken in our Cabinet?" Campbell: "He's a Tory, but Hague says he'll kick him out if he backs pro-single currency rebels in this summer's Euro-elections." Blair: "Super! Then we can make him Deputy PM").

Most of new Labour's First XI are human political spoilers, too. Robin Cook successfully makes even emptier threats to despots in the world's troublespots than did his predecessor as Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind. Jack Straw - mimicking the Tories' Home Secretary Michael Howard - is also a smart, often eloquent politician who has a knack of coming across as a complete plonker. At Health, Frank Dobson sets the world alight just as dimly as Stephen Dorrell did before him. At the Department of Trade, Blair has found a perfect spoiler for the unmemorable Ian Lang in the for-

gettable Stephen Byers. Spoiling is everywhere. High street clothes shops do it by copying designer's frocks while they are still on the catwalks in Milan and Paris and getting them into the shops almost overnight. I had planned to write today about the euro. Then I learnt that a columnist on a rival newspaper was going to write about spoilers. So my journalistic instinct told me that it was professional duty to spoil his col-

umn about spoilers. If, by some unfortunate chance, you should read another article in another newspaper today that shamelessly sets out to spoil my spoiler about spoilers, don't tell me. It'll spoil my whole day.

I have discovered a lifetime of betrayal by my husband of 32 years

Lynn Redgrave is in crisis. In an interview with Janie Lawrence she tells for the first time why she is divorcing her husband

that all is not well with Lynn Redgrave. Until this point she ance perfectly belitting one of our most accomplished acresses; poised, soignée, and recounting anecdotes with considerable brio.

I am the last in a series of journalists interviewing her about her new (and very fine) film, Gods and Monsters, for which she has been nominated for an Oscar. And if she doesn't win one for the film. she certainly deserves one for the performance she managed to maintain almost, but not quite, until the end of her gruelling publicity schedule on Tuesday afternoon.

The straw that breaks her is my innocent and well-intentioned remark that finally she appears to have it all - profes-sional acciamation, and a martiage (10 John Clark, the child star of Just William) which, in the flighty world of Hollywood, has gone on for ever; 32 years, to be precise.

Yes, it's been a very long one," she replies, in measured tones distinctly lacking in enabusiasm. For a few minutes she continues to talk about her career before volunteering, in an apparent non sequitur, that she has been undergoing ther-

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apy since December.
That would normally indicate someone in crisis," I say, puzzled. "As a matter of fact, I am in crisis," she replies. Her voice is steady but her fingers twiddle agitatedly with a nap-

have been talk- kin. "This has been a very difficult time. In many ways I'm having ... "Her face crumples, and she abruptly dis-

solves into tears. Even in distress she is dignily accepting the tissue I have ferreted for in my bag, and contimes for some minutes. Unsure what to to say, my immediate thought is that she must be gravely iil; certainly she looks as though she has lost some weight.

Her grief is painful to witness and it is several minutes more before she regains any semblance of composure. "I'm sorry," she gulps. "No, I'm not ill. As of Thanksgiving, I've dis-covered a lifetime of betrayalfrom my husband, and I'm. divorcing him. You're the first person I've told. I suppose it's because I'm wobbly and

The first thing that's been revealed to me involves another child who has been in my house all this time, and who I never knew was my husband's child. And now my husband has just spoken to the National Enquirer."

She was expecting the story to break next week; instead, the news breaks the day after we meet. And what an extraordinary, and tawdry, tale of betrayal it is. Last November. her husband confessed to her that he had fathered the child of the woman who later married their son. Zachary, the eight-year-old boy Lynn had always thought of as her surrogate grandson, was in fact her husband's child.

He said he had had an affair



In crisis: "People will say hooray for Lynn, but there is a price to pay. You can have your life as you knew it destroyed"

Nicolette, and that during the affair she had become pregnant by him. The affair ended and subsequently Nicolette fell in love with, and married, Lynn and John's own son. Ben, who, not knowing who Zachary's real father was,

adopted him as his own. "It was right beneath my nose for eight years," says Lynn, her voice hollow with the shock of it still. "I thought this child was my surrogate grandchild: that his own father was a s*** and never

paid attention to him." It is unlikely that any of this would have become public, were it not for the fact that last

year Nicolette filed a restrain-

ing order against Clark, who she alleged was harassing her. By this time her marriage to Ben had broken up, and she was involved with a married plumber. Lynn says that her husband was forced finally to confess to her because of the alleged harassment. Nicolette,

in an apparent attempt to

stop him, was threatening to

"He's harangued them in the most appalling way and she threatened to tell me if he didn't stop. So he told me, but then he carried on. Because he can't have her, he doesn't want

anyone else to have her." It was Thanksgiving, the traditional day in America for family unity, when her hus-

band turned Lynn's own family inside out. "It's quite, quite horrifying," she says, "I'd just put the turkey in the oven. We had a houseguest, and John said he had something to tell me. We went into the garden and he told me about Zach-

Her immediate reaction, she says, was to feel compassion for Zachary. She recounts the betrayal without anger or rancour; it is as if she is still in such a deep state of shock that she can scarcely believe the words she is uttering. "I'm not bitter. I'm a lot of things, but I don't have time for that. I've been in a terrible state of struggle, and gradually making moves towards taking control of the situation. And with each step I take, as hard as it is, I feel a little clearer."

Many times over the past three months, she has been driving and had to pull over because she simply couldn't see the road. "Quite honestly, I was unable to drive at all on the freeway for a month."

For a long time she was una-ble to eat, and has lost ten pounds in less than eight weeks. "I've eaten better because I'm away, but it's proba-bly the first time I've eaten

well up again.
One dreadful irony is that her husband is also her manager. Since her performance in Shine she has gone from

strength to strength; she is marvellous in Gods and Monsters and with the Oscars only weeks away, he would, under normal circumstances, be accompanying her. Now she intends to go with her daugh-ters. The bitter sweetness is that he has been a great champion of my work, and long wanted me to succeed. All that's happened has been to re-joice in, to share in. But how can I? So I can only say: "Well. I'm still here and I'll go on for my kids." "I suppose what I'm think-

ing is that the Greek gods who look over us from Mount Olympus are saying: Well, we've decided that you've worked very hard as an actor, you've paid your dues and you've lived a good life. People will say, hooray for Lynn, she's back, but there's a price to pay. And this is the price. You can have your life as you knew it

Unsurprisingly, she has barely given her future any thought. "This has been a mas-

I had just put the turkey in the oven. We had a guest, and John said he had something to tell me. We went into the garden and he told me about Zachary

properly in three months." until she filed for divorce on Monday, he had been hoping they would be able to "patch things up". This seems a remarkable comment from a man who has revealed his story to America's most notorious (and high-paying) tabloid. Yet women have forgiven errant

husbands, in the most extraordinary of circumstances, before; does Lynn share his hope of reconciliation? "It's too soon for me to say. I can't forgive him and go back to him. There is no way we can be back together." It was her husband's decision to tell all to the National Enquirer, she says,

that joited her into filing for divorce. "He didn't dream that I would do it. But once he spoke out, I had to, I didn't want my action to be the result of an article. There's no wavering on my part." She adds, ominously: This is only the tip of the iceberg. And how huge is this? The rest of it is horrifying." She won't be drawn further

as to what "the rest of it" is. On the basis of what we know so far, it hardly bears contemplating. And, inevitably, one of the most painful elements for her is having to wonder whether her whole married life has been a sham.

Yes, that's what I have to work through. And to tell my-self what I believe is true: that he has loved me. He's loved me very deeply. I think." She

sive chunk of my life, so I have put this into perspective. I'm not afraid of being alone. I'm quite good at it. But then I have children and my daughter Kelly is expecting twins, so soon I'll have grandchildren. I've had very much of a won-derful life. Of course, my children have been very affected by all of this."

As for her attitude towards Zachary, she insists nothing will change. "He is the most wonderful child and I truly love him."

When we speak later on the shone, after the news story has broken, she says she is exhausted and keen to gather strength before she begins shooting a new film next week. "I think I am strong but I've been moved at how good my family have been. They've been fantastic. Until this, I've never confided in anyone apart from my husband for

She says she has categorically no intention of engaging in a public war of words with her husband, and states that she intends forwith to maintain a dignified silence. Yet rarely a day goes by when she is not, at some point, overwhelmed by emotion. Her voice trembles. In many ways my marriage wasn't perfect. but I loved him deeply. My heart rose when I heard his footfall in the kitchen." Copyright: Janie Lawrence

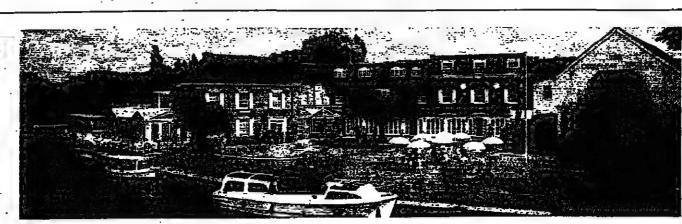
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Why Britain will be in the money

We can only benefit from

staying away from euroland

I hoever said that newspapers were re-mote from their readers? I was planning not to write about Europe again this week, but the deluge of e-mails and letters has persuaded me otherwise. It looks as if the position of being pro-Europe-an but anti-EMU is one that very many of you share.

So why do critics claim that it is self-contradictory? Colin Sharman, of KPMG, dis-missed it as like being "half-pregnant" when New Europe, the organisation with which I am involved, was launched on Monday, Passionate EMU-philes love setting up a false dichotomy; you either have to go with the flow or leave the EU altogether. That's as silly as saying that you can't love football but hate Arsenal.

But at least Mr Sharman will vote "yes" out of real enthusiasm. More worrying are the millions who have grave doubts about joining the euro but fear there is no future for this country outside it. The "yes" campaign will play mer-cilessly on these fears. It will claim that we "cannot afford" to be "left behind".

So the onus is on opponents of EMU to boost people's confidence that Britain can thrive in the Union outside the eurozone. For we are not a pathetic little country that cannot survive without pooling economic management with the Germans and the

French, Far from it. Britain has the fifth largest economy in the world, it is one of only five permanent members of the UN Security Council and is a leading member of Nato and G7. None of these facts will change, in or out of EMU -- except that, if we join, our G7 seat may go to a

Would we lose inward investment if we stayed out? I very much doubt it we may even gain it. Don't forget that we would remain in the single market. EMU-entrusiasts claim that the eurozone would rig the market against us. Not only would that be illegal, under the Treaty of Rome; it would also be wholly against the eurozone's interests, since we are their biggest trading partner and the balance of

Mary Ann

trade is in their favour. Inward investors in Britain would have to hedge their currency exposure to the euro. But, offset against that tiny insurance premium would be the huge benefits of our labour flexibility, low tax and modest social costs, not to mention our language and reputation as a good place to live. A dynamic economy on the fringe of euroland could be a far more attractive site for investment than the often selectic and overtaxed countries within the zone. German companies are already moving their factories here. Deutsche Bank has just spent £300 million improving its international headquarters
— in London, not Frankfurt.

Of course the pressures to raise our tax and social costs will come whether we join or not. But the chances of resisting them are greater if we remain outside. This is how it will happen. Endless proposals for "harmonisation" will come: each time (I hope)

Britain will either veto or threaten its veto. The other Europeans will be livid and will compare Tony Blair to Margaret Thatcher.

They will suggest (they al-ready have) that the veto be abolished for all but treaty changes. We will veto that suggestion. Deadlock will en-sue; which will be broken by the proposal that the euro-Il harmonise whatever they like, as long as they don't expect the join in. Such flexibility is already in use in the EU: in the Schengen accord on open borders and in EMU itself.

Some euro-enthusiasts will, of course, complain that this will lead to a two-tier Europe, to which I reply, "Hurray!". That is exactly what we want: a chance for the people of each country to choose how much integration they are comfortable with. If I were Italian, I would be delighted for the EU often fractious and unstable national governments. Being British, I am more dublous.

And if that leaves us outside "the heart of Europe", so what? Actually, we have never been there, and would not reach it even if we joined the euro. The heart of Europe is Germany and France and, for genuine historical, cultural and geographical reasons, it always will be. But what does it matter? We can take advantage of our hinge position between Europe

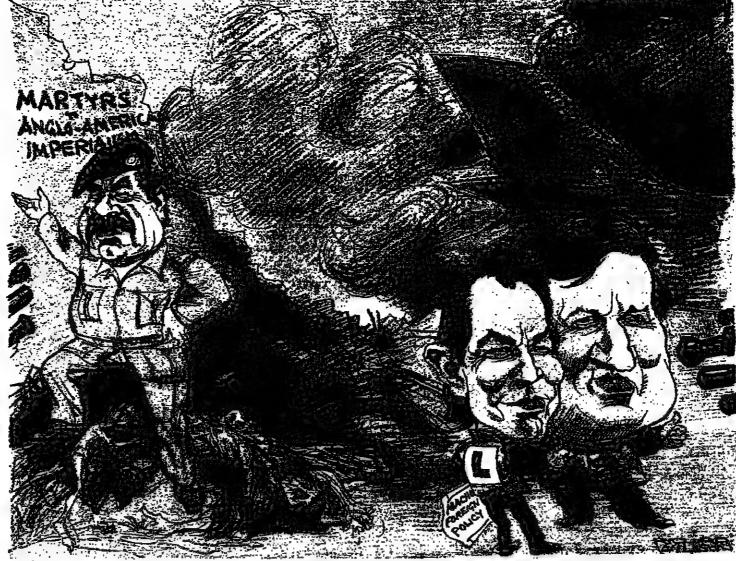
and America. Would we be poorer outside? Far from it. For a start, we would retain the flexible labour markets that the euro-11 will be tempted to legislate away. That would make us even more competitive. And the City will be fine: it has

always excelled in offshore business. Most important. though, our chances of maximising our growth and minimising our unemployment depend on having interest rates that are tuned as closely as dossible to the state of our economy at any one time. Just a point or two too high, and we dampen growth and lose jobs; too low and we suffer inflation, making our industry uncompetitive. The euro interest rate is likely to be a bit wrong for most of the countries most of the time, as

o I have a very sunny vision of Britain outside the euro. It is not just that I fear what we would lose inside: the chance to throw out the people who run our economy badly, the loss of levers over economic policy and much more. I look forward to what we would gain outside. Compared with the eurozone, Britain would be a dynamic, flexible, modern, open country with the ability to be quick on its feet and to make the most of its unique position linking Europe and America.

inside the EU but outside EMU, we can have the best of both worlds. Why throw it

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.. TWO MORE PHOTO- OPPORTUNITIES.

It's dead wrong

This week, as we are all aware, a group of non-Euro-peans killed a group of Britons in a most brutal fashion. The story is still being given sensational coverage in the British media. Meanwhile a group of Britons have been killing non-Europeans in a most brutal fashion.

That story has been ignored. The killing of four Britons in Uganda, allegedly because of Brit-ain's support for the Tutsi regime in Rwanda, was ghastly and tragic. Travellers to turbulent parts of the world take a risk. British visitors have been killed in Yemen, in Chechnya and in South-East Asia. None received two, three, four pages of gruesome coverage, day after day. Rwanda and its borderland is the site of Africa's Cambodia, a bloodbath not yet over. The geno-cide is ignored by British and American interventionists largely because blacks are killing blacks, and doing so far from cameras and aircraft carriers. It is hard not to conclude that the attention given to

killed whites, and with gruesome

weapons, thus conforming to the stereotype of "barbaric" Africa. Now for the unimportant killing. Britain is currently conducting a bombing campaign against Iraq in support of the War of Clinton's Frustration In December, British and American forces unleashed a rain of terror on Baghdad with the Germany is already finding. macho title of Desert Fox. This was Outside, we are more likely to a 72-hour burst of bombs and missiles, whose objectives were obscure. They were variously to "teach Saddam a lesson", to "dishave interest rates that are just arm him from the air", to restore weapons inspections and possibly to yield a coup. Afterwards, Tony Blair oasted "We have put Saddam back firmly in his cage and secured it. Washington agreed. Its justification for Desert Fox was to achieve what United Nations inspectors had failed to achieve: to neutralise President Saddam Hussein's offen-

sive weapons. This had been done. In which case what was the point of continuing with sanctions after December? The answer is that there was a wider war aim. Within weeks the bombing resumed. In the past two months, more bombs have fallen on Iraq than during Desert Fox. A wider list of targets has included vaguely defined "command and control sites. Even assuming a pilot knows what he is aiming at, he cannot be sure of hitting it. The Pentagon recently

We deplore the murderers of British

tourists, but bomb Iragis with impunity

confirmed that only half of Desert Fox's 34 air defence targets were hit. The UN staff in Baghdad are now auditing civilian casualties from some 80 recent Anglo-American raids. In the past two months, they confirmed 17 dead, including a woman and five children, in a housing estate in Basra, an outrage that would have stunned the media had it been an Iraqi bomb in a British housing estate. They have confirmed five women and five children killed in Abu Khasib, six

civilians killed in Najaf, and five civil-ians killed in "southern Iraq" on February 15. There have been confirmations that hundreds more have been maimed

and wounded and UTVCD from their homes. The means of their death is no less "barbaric" than was used in Uganda. Blast and fragmentation weapons are designed to attack the body with shrapnel pellets,

like hundreds of

stab wounds. They

turn buildings either into infernos or into concrete missiles or into liveburial tombs. The deaths may not look ghastly from a pilot's cockpit, or from a targeting computer, or on the follow-up video, or even from Downing Street. But these weapons are the cruellest harbingers of death. The endgame of the most sophisticated technology is not a clean bullet in the head, but a medieval killing, the mutilating, shattering and crushing of the

Of course ministers will say that civilian casualties are mistakes. I am sure some Hutu commander regards the killing of British tourists in Uganda as a mistake. His gangsters were out for Tutsis and hit the wrong camp, like a Tomahawk gone haywire. But British ministers are not crazed Hutus. They are acting within rules of engagement that should pass muspresent they do not pass muster. This war has not even been put before the House of Commons. The reason is that it cannot be defended there, even before a Commons which these days hats all the independence of a Baghdad mili-

This week the poor Defence Secretary, George Robertson, was pushed forward to parrot the old Vietnam War phrases. The targets,

be explained, were being "degrad-ed" by British pilots "in self-de-ience" while flying humanitarian mis sions" intended "to protect the Iraqi peo-ple". I had a flashback to General Westmoreland in Saigon, explaining why you must save it Meanwhile Mr Robertson and friends this week bombed the Iraq-Turkey oil pipeline at Ceyhan, the conduit for oil forfood that is the one shred of humanitar-

ianism left in this

affair. We let Iraq sell oil for children's

food, then bomb the

oil. To hell with the ethics. This is lunacy. I am no pacifist. In my time I have visited some horrific, and justified, wars. But this campaign is indefensible. The "official" objective is quite different from December's Desert Fox, which was to punish the Iraqi President and destroy his chemical and biological weapons. This campaign is allegedly to protect the "no-fly" zones in the north and south of the country. But Saddam is not threatening them. He is merely using his, supposedly degraded, air force to "cheat and retreat": to entice the British and American planes into bombing attacks that he hopes will win him Arab and Eastern bloc support. His tactic appears to be

We are now told privately that the real reason for the war is different again. It is to go on pounding Iraq with bombs, any old where, until they do what bombers have never done before: bring about the downfall of a regime. This reason cannot be declared because it is illegal. For better or worse, overthrowing the leader of a sovereign state by force runs counter to both the UN Charter and international law. So what we have here is, in reality, a private war against Iraq that nei ther London nor Washington can avow. The nearest parallels are the operations by Presidents Nixon and Reagan against hostile Govern-ments in Chile, Nicaragua, Lebanon and Panama. Mostly they used mercenaries. Britain is using the

In which case, cries a modern Palmerston, at least let it work. But how? This is a war without any plan, any tactic, any strategy or any foresecable victory. It is mere bombing. Toppling Saddam Hus-sein would plainly require a ground assault. Britain has peither the will nor the guts for that. If Anglo-American forces invaded, against the opposition of half the world, they would have to fight and to stay. As Kosovo, they would have to take responsibility for the aftermath. They would need to be proper policemen, rather the present hitand-run vendetta squad:

he British Government lacks the courage of its convictions in this venture. It is pursuing low-cost, low-risk machismo. It is doing something relatively easy, but obscenely cruel, to avoid having to do something hard but sensible. This would be to admit that a decade of anti-Saddam strategy has failed and sanctions should end. Bombing and sanctions have merely entrenched him, and worsened the impoverishment of his people. British ministers keep saying they have no quarrel with the Iraqi people, only with Saddam. Not so. There are two quarrels. One is with Saddam. which he is winning. The other is with the Iraqi people, which they are losing. They are the ones Britain

The present British Cabinet and Parliamentary Labour Party are largely composed of one-time anti-war protesters. A general once told me that whenever he saw ban-thebombers on the march his instinct was to run for cover. He was right. But I never thought the marchers would end up dropping the bombs.

comment@the-times.co.uk



Loose cannon

AS MONICA LEWINSKY files over here with her amorous tale. Major James Hewitt is heading over there to give a lecture tour about his friendship with the late Diana, Princess of Wales.

The major, a lovely rat really, says he is poised to follow Baroness Thatcher, John Major and the writer, Lord Archer of Westonsuper-Mare, where he could earn as much as £30,000 a chat. For as the great novelist says: "I gave a lecture in Palm Beach yesterday

and half the questions were about "If Archer can do it, anyone can,"
Hewitt claims, Talking about the
Princess is "painful" but he admits that if he were to give a lecture series "it is an aspect of my life one

would have to touch upon ... -MADONNA'S affection for MAI/CNNA'S agection for Britain extends to our floors; she has bought a £30,000 pure British carpet to line her daughter's nursery. The singer commissioned 160 square metres for young Lourdes from Heckmondwike Carpets in Yorkshire. A highest process that for a little side.

bedroom, that, for a little girl: DIANE ABBOTT claims wildly in the House, amid stifled chortles, that a hack had rung her to say the Foreign Office has "an arsenal of personal information" to use against her. Perhaps she meant me. I rang to relay a harmless butle story about the time she played opposite Michael Portillo in a school play. She seemed to construe this as an

FO plot to bring her down. You

must get out more, Diane.





granddaughter of Roald (both above), is to venture to India to ease her writer's block. The orb of modelling tells me she is tired of London and dreams of escape to a trying to write for ages," she says "All my student friends do the travelling thing, but I missed out because I work so hard."

WILLIAM HAGUE has had an idea. Or three, to be fair. The Tory leader, I hear, has devised themes to push in a summer offensive. The first the British have not changed (they still hate social security fraud, paying tax, etc). The second: the Tories should be the "new Whigs". This requires the Tories "to tell a story of progress". As well as contradicting theme one, this seems to sit a little oddly with, well. Conservatism. Theme three (ah, that familiar glow): freedom. Back to the brain vat, William.

SHOOTING rather than the Liberal Democrat leadership is exercising the splendid Menzies Campbell. As the 45 potential candidates met, some expressed concern about disclosing the result on August 9. "Whatever is the problem?" piped up Ming. "It's better than August 12."



■ IN HIS efforts to flog the Millennium Dome, Lord Falconer of Thoroton is toying with a classic ploy favoured by property develop-ers. The chubby one is poised to make the Greenwich erection a sexier buy by cleverly redefining it as a company rather than an asset. Thus, a purchaser would pay stamp duty of 0.5 per cent, incurred on share sales, rather than 3 per cent, which falls due on asset. disposals. The only loser? You.

THE Queen's distaste for dreary repetition fills me with admiration. Sent a rare invitation . from the Royal Opera House to see The Marriage of Figuro, she politely sent her regrets because she had already seen it remembering it as the one about the girl losing a pin

JASPER GERARD

'Asterix in euroland: featuring the Magister Primus, Tony Preposterus, and his noisy henchman Bill Cashnametapefix'

ow is the time for Asterix and Obelix to visit archix cartoon Gauls have deconstructed and taken the pix out of most other human pomposities in their struggles with J. Caesar and his original Treaty of Rome. With a Falstaffian majesty they refuse to take at all seriously all persons, powers and institutions that take themselves seriously. Participants in the euro debate

are ripe for their attention. So on his next quest Asterix should revisit his cousins in Britannia Magna, where the debate rages hottest. The very names lend themselves to his punning art, from Euroseptix, Chief Druid of the Oompah-pah Sept which worships the late deified Jimmy Aurilex, to Euro-mania, the high priestess of the confederation led from the rear by various bashful Latin lovers. These include the Magister

Primus, Tony Preposterus of the anything about it cheesy curate's smile, and his will write to point Magister Secundus, Guru of Darkness, Petrus Mandelfilius. There Asterix and Obelix will meet Bill Cashnametapefix Ve-rivoluminos, whose oratory can

empty the Senate of senators and a newspaper page of its readers faster than any other campaigner, except, perhaps, for Ted Campus (Heath) of the Europhiliax Clan. Winsome Teresa Gormania shall carry a spear, entirely for her own cursus honorum rather than any tribal cause, and so will Anticlimax Hastings, scribe for Conradox Nigerrimus. Another scribe for Nigerrimus, Christopher Liberer, will each week publish a horror story about some imaginary pettylogging regulations emanating from the great lawmaking convention under the Brussels Sprout. And the follow-

ing week somebody who knows

all his facts wrong. as per usual. Pana-Impedimenta will swing her handbag again at filthy froggy foreign fiends, as she once did beside her sister Boadicea. And Geriatrix Tebbitix, the

grumpy old man of heri, will snarl and gibber such threats as shall be the terrors of the earth, could anyone still be bothered to listen to or understand him.

As usual for Asterix, we shall have a pictorial pun, perhaps from Rubens's painting of Zeus visiting Danaë in a ticker-tape shower of eurobonds. And there must be a literary reference, possibly to Doctor Debens Owing, leader of the neweurope sect

de Lors in Frankfurt, or by dim Bohemian village in 1518, and crossed the Atlantic by way ing, leader of the neweurope sect

Appianglorius, your tribal chief
of James VI's sword dollars in

wrong,/ Is everything by starts, and nothing long."
There will be cacophonix pax of dogs of a snappy Russell nature, as is suitable in Britannica, all called [défix and Dogmatix. The tribal prophet will

be Vitalstatistix Prolix Woostersaucy Moripollos. His Sphinx will produce, for a suitably large emolumentum in menhirs from Stonehenge, the answer anybody wants by rephrasing the ques-tion craftily. For example: "Do you want your feudal levies in euro menhirs decided by Attila.

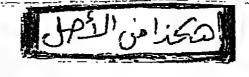
of opportunist kerns and galloglasses, "Stiff in opinions, always in the galways in the state of ble Growth Economix, and crowds of assorted voters and nutters, with such names as Histrionix, Tragicomix, Home-opathix and Sophistix will demonstrate, screeching: "Serva nostram libram. Save our pound."

To conform to the Asterix

consilium, there will be some Gadus (cod) pedagogy, about how the pound sterling has developed from older tribal totems such as angels, guineas, florins and, as it happens, the first euro coinage, the libra. And the curious route by which the almighty dollar sprang out of the "large groats" coined by an obscure Bohemian Count in a

Scotland, and Spanish pieces of eight. Chancellor Odiuscomparison will declare in his Budget that money like menhirs has only two properties: it should be flat so that it can be piled up. And it should be round, or oblong, so that it can circulate. There will be a Virgilian tag, remembered from Old Chalky. Librae sacra fames, perhaps. The absurd hunger for the pound.

As usual, the whole loony mess will have to be resolved by a magic potion, brewed at the Ripa of Anglia by Eddie Getafix. For the British euronutters the ingredient about the hoses theef on dients should be bos os (beef on the bone), boiled cabbage soaked in mint sauce, genetically modified chips with vinegar, weak tea and warm beer. And the Asterix book will be more illuminating and edifying than most of the propaganda put out by the fissiparous and endearing tribes of Ancient Britain.



duhenia .

Bankager

Mr. Comme

Herman

Mar.

Netgran

Tai non

Tony Blair greatly admires the free-trad-

ing, modérnising socialism of the Dutch.

Had his ministers listened to The Nether-

lands last year. Scotland's cashmere

industry would not now be facing ruin for

the sake of an outlawed EU scheme to

shield Caribbean banana-growers from

competition. Nor would his backbench

troops be following his irresponsibly

populist lead as they bay for the blood of

wicked multinationals with all the unrecon-

structed fervour of old Labour. Nor would

Britain be courting American contempt by summoning the US Ambassador for a

carpeting by the Trade Secretary, Stephen

Byers, over a trade dispute where the EU,

and Britain, have repeatedly been found by

an impartial global panel to be legally in

the wrong. Robin Cook, never one to avoid

digging when the hole yawns, is apparent-

ly to repeat this foolish performance today.

should resort to so public a drubbing of its

closest ally, with a démarche that, even

when she was at her angriest over the US

invasion of Grenada, Margaret Thatcher

had more sense of decorum and proportion

than to contemplate? Is it the Scottish

elections that make Mr Blair, there on a

visit, pour forth oaths about "our determi-

nation to make sure British jobs and

Scottish jobs are protected"? Or does this

posturing conceal private embarrassment

that Britain, this great free-trading nation,

shares with the European Commission much of the blame for this stupid crisis?

Britain chaired the EU council which

last year, after the EU's banana regime

had thrice been condemned by an impar-

tial panel of the World Trade Organisation

(WTO) as a breach of global trade rules,

decided to substitute one trade-distorting

regime for banana imports with another.

The Dutch, with Denmark, voted against,

rightly arguing that the US had won its

case and it was time for the EU to obey the

Sir Leon Brittan's letter on this page

While the United States and much of the

wider world awaited the words of the

Latest Lover, the First Lady has spent the

past two days in New York dropping hints

that she may seek election to the Senate.

Hillary Clinton's speech there on Wednes-

day in which she said that "we cannot drop"

out of the political process" was deliberate-

ly teasing. If she stands, her opponent will

almost certainly be Rudolph Giuliani, the

This would be a bitter and expensive

hattle. Mrs Clinton starts with strong poll

ratings and undoubted celebrity. But she

has never sought elective office before and

is notoriously thin-skinned in her media

dealings. Mr Giuliani has already raised

her public support for a Palestinian state as

an issue that might alienate Jewish voters.

This may prove less of a difficulty if

Binyamin Netanyahu loses the forthcom-

ing Israeli election and is replaced by a

politician willing to surrender more territo-

ry to Yassir Arafat. It is, however, an

indication of what Mrs Clinton will face if

she chooses to accept the Senate challenge.

as an outsider. Born in Illinois, educated in

Connecticut, resident of Arkansas, current-

ly established in Washington, she has only

slender connections with the Empire State.

This may not matter much in Manhattan

or even the rest of New York City where

many voters are themselves recent immi-

grants. It takes more than a (Greenwich)

village, however, to be elected across the

whole of New York State. In cities such as

Albany, Buffalo and Syracuse, Mrs Clin-

ton's lack of local knowledge will matter.

Roll up, roll up. Tickets for London's

longest-running show. Enter the Cham-

bers, if you dare. The Palace of Westmin-

ster is throwing open its doors. Thank you,

ladies and gentlemen. This tour is not for

the faint-hearted. Prepare yourself for the

grey-suited ghouls of London's most

authentic Chambers of Horrors. Don't be

deceived by Berty Boothroyd's matronly

manner, a harpie-tongued Speaker pre-

sides here. Listen to the baying of political

debate. Follow me ladies and gentlemen, to

the cyries and crannies where the cameras

never probe. Pry into those places where

Here politicians have been skewered,

stabbed and grilled. Party leaders have lost

face. Cromwell's head, exhumed after the

restoration of Charles II, glared down on

drink to quell their nerves. Even Disraeli

quaffed brandy and water. Gladstone

plots have been perpetrated.

Her biggest liability would be her status

Republican Mayor of New York City.

SENATOR CLINTON

Republicans want the First Lady to fight in New York

agreed laws governing global trade.

What ails this Government, that it

THE TIMES

BLAIR'S BANANA SKIN

What a ridiculous way to duck the blame for a trade blunder

denies that the EU has dragged its feet.

Why then did it ignore the first ruling against it, back in 1994? Why, after the US

had won for a third time, did it wait more

than 12 months before changing the

banana regime - and attempt, even then,

to slither past the rules rather than respect

them? Sir Leon is too battle-hardened a

veteran of transatlantic trade negotiations

not to have known that the Americans.

who have been waiting half a decade for

action, would not be so easily fobbed off.

The irresistible conclusion is that he has

filibustered, knowing that if the EU

tinkered with a quota or two, it could then

demand that Washington go back to the

WTO and fight the battle all over again.

On Sir Leon's own admisstion, the EU is

still refusing to discuss with the US "the substance of the new regime" — a regime

The US has been criticised in the past on

this page for using its muscle rather than

playing by the rules; but in this case, after

sitting for six years like patience on a monument, it is hardly surprising that it is

no longer smiling on the grief the EU

persists in causing the world trade system.

Rules, unlike bananas, may not be bent, if

global trade is to thrive. The Government

has known since at least last November

about America's March deadline for

exacting compensation for losses suffered

by America's banana distributors - time

It is quite true that the US has no legal

right to impose sanctions until yet another

WTO panel has decided how much

compensation is appropriate; but it has

not, technically, done so: customs bonds

must be posted, but will not be collected

until the WTO reports. If Mr Blair objects

to legalistic games, he should not have

joined Brussels in playing them. Makers of

cashmere, batteries or biscuits are right to

be disgusted. But it is British ministers -

not evil US multinationals - that they

should blame for their undeserved plight.

Mr Giuliani can be relied upon to exploit

Some Democrats have argued that this

disadvantage is exaggerated. They point

out that Robert Kennedy, a citizen of

Massachusetts, fought and won a New York Senate seat in the 1964 elections. The

comparison is somewhat dubious. The

Kennedy family were intimates with New

York's financial community. Mr Kennedy

was a former Attorney-General of the US

and running in the aftermath of his

brother's assassination (not a husband's

acquittal) when elected. To paraphrase the

then Senator Lloyd Bentsen's devastating

rebuke to Dan Quayle in 1988, Mrs

She is, nonetheless, a formidable figure

A Clinton campaign in New York would

attract enormous energy, interest, and

money from all over America. It would

almost overshadow the presidential elec-

tion as a media speciacle. This is precisely

what allies of Vice-President Al. Gore are

afraid of. They fear that key resources will

be drawn away from his efforts to succeed

That concern is shared by Democrats in

other states with Senate elections in 2000.

They think that funds which would

otherwise be directed to them might

disappear in the drive to assist the First

Lady. Victory in New York could be offset

by defeat in states such as Nevada. The

Republicans, by contrast, are rich enough

to withstand several costly campaigns.

Although she may beat them in New York,

it is the Republicans who would like Mrs

Clinton to declare for the Senate.

Mr Clinton in the White House.

Clinton, you are no Bobby Kennedy.

his advantage ruthlessly.

enough to ensure that the axe did not fall.

whose whole purpose is discriminatory.









Ountries

ed by a on frui

Tries

this hall for 20 years. And Spencer Perceval met his end, near here in Pugin's magnificent lobby. He was the only Prime Minister ever to be assassinated in deed not in word. Now we are standing in the Commons chamber. Note the red lines: two sword lengths apart - just far enough to separate fractious Members. But still, they failed to stop MPs from exchanging more than verbal blows. Emmanuel Shinwell once hit a Tory here so hard that the man's ears rang for the rest of his life. He may have been among the many who resorted to

Parliament opens its chambers to tourism preferred sherry and egg. But more sober

OLD CURIOSITY SHOP

Members may resort to snuff, provided there in a box behind the Speaker's Chair. Here we are at the scene of many an ill-mannered display. Two Members "did both come drunk the other day into the House, and did both speak for half an hour" wrote Samuel Pepys. And on this spot Michael Heseltine swung the Mace, mane blowing in the political tempest.

But the most heinous crimes are reserved for elsewhere, out of the public gaze. Stay close together now and follow me. There are five kilometres of corridor in which to connive. Let us begin here, behind the Speaker's Chair, where members sidle for secret words and juniors are whipped into

Moving on swiftly we reach Plods' Bar. In watering holes like these careers have sunk while rebellions bubbled. But come deeper down into the bowels of the building to witness the scene of the most secret assignations. Here in the rifle gallery, MPs lead their researchers on. But when their investigations surface again, the revelation may lead to the end of many

a career. And now we have reached the souvenir shop. Humbugs aplenty, and these are not the only mugs in the House of Commons. Once you could only buy politicians in Parliament. Now there are more tacky trinkets of the tourist trade. Anyone fancy

an embossed brown envelope?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

US 'flying in face' of banana ruling

1P3/10/160

From Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission

Sir, You are quite wrong to blame EU "footdragging" for our dispute with the US over banana imports (leading

article, March 4).

A number of EU member states. especially Britain, have for many years favoured giving preferential access to Caribbean and African bananas to the EU market. Some of those Caribbean economies depend on bananas for up to 25 per cent of their income. Member states approved an amended banana regime last June, maintaining longstanding preferential access for African and Caribbean bananas, but responding to a World Trade Organisation (WTO) ruling which had condemned

some aspects of our earlier regime. The US does not like the new regime. They have every right to challenge it again and achieve a final verdict in the WTO. But they have chosen not to do so. Instead, they have unilaterally determined that the new regime is not in compliance with international rules - something which is explicitly forbidden under their WTO obligations.

What the US announced yesterday is not, contrary to their claims, a suspension of sanctions action. It is an illegal measure designed to have immediate negative effects on European exports. The American Govern-ment's briefing notes for use with the press confirm this. They explicitly state that "we retaliated by effectively

stopping trade as of March 3". Their claim that they are obliged to act now in order to preserve their WTO rights is unfounded. It was expressly refuted by the WTO arbitrators on March 2, as was the figure for

damages the Americans are claiming The US is flying in the face of the WTO, an organisation which the EU and the US worked hard to establish and from which we both benefit. The US has taken and won more dispute settlement panels than any other nation. But now they are resorting to the sort of unilateralism which we have been struggling for years to

As for the Commission's role, we have been seeking a settlement and have been ready to address with the Americans the substance of the regime, but not under the duress of threatened unilateral action. Some weeks ago I recommended to EU member states that we should have discussions with the Americans. Many were in favour. Others, including the United Kingdom, were reluctant to agree, although I am happy to note that the British position has since developed and talks have

been taking place. I shall continue to work for a settlement, as I have worked with some success to settle other disputes caused

by sanctions-happy American policy. LEON BRITTAN. Vice-President, European Commission, Rue de la Loi 200. B-1049 Brussels.

Breastfeeding problems

From Mrs Alison Watts

March 4.

Sir, I was sad to read of the traumatic experience of the baby Jessica and her parents in "Breast is not always best" (Weekend, February 27). Beatriz Clark has an understandably nega-tive view of breastfeeding. In this instance it seems that breastfeeding was not properly established, but normally a woman's midwife would pick up any early signs of a problem

and help to put things right. Formula feeding, not breastfeeding, is regarded as normal in the UK and this culture is absorbed from childhood onwards. The National Childbirth Trust campaigns to help overcome the obstacles women experience and raise awareness of the health

benefits of breastfeeding.

While our objective is a breastfeeding-friendly culture, our counsellors are committed to meeting parents' individual needs, which in clude supporting mothers who are switching from the breast to a bottle.

Yours sincerely, ALISON WATTS (Chair, Breastfeeding Promotion Group), The National Childbirth Trust, Alexandra House. Oldham Terrace, Acton, W3 6NH. March 4.

What a pane

From Mrs Leonie J. Hill

Sir, As a Southwark Council taxpayer, I am mightily interested in who will foot the window-cleaning bills incurred by Sir Norman Foster's tenstorey "glass egg" planned for the South Bank (report and picture, February 26).

Yours faithfully. LEONIE J. HILL 6 Hampton Court. king & Queen Wharf. Rotherhithe Street. SEI6 ISU. February 26.

Letters to the Editor for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046 — or by e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

State responsibility towards caring for the elderly The thrust of government policy is to refocus welfare spending on those in longer care for themselves. Those

From the Chair of the Royal Commission on Long Term Care for the Elderly

Sir, Your leading article, "Care free" (March 2) starts from a fundamental misconception of this commission's findings. These are not based on "old Labour instincts to trust the State". Rather we set out what we believe is the most cost-effective solution for the nation as a whole of making provision

for people who need care. We set out a new form of partnership between State and individual one that has a cost simply because the current system places too much of a burden on the individual who is in need of care. It introduces an amount of risk-sharing which is currently

We acknowledge the uncertainty of future governments' intentions — that is why we suggest setting up a

National Care Commission. Your conclusion that the private sector - presumably insurance - should take the burden has been extensively addressed in our report. We point out how insurance will not deliver the goods. This is not just a theoretical position - all we have to do is to look at where it has been extensively market tested - in the United States. There, despite huge state

subsidies, policies simply do not sell. However, with the new form of partnership that the commission proposes, the industry will be able to design affordable products to cover the non-personal care for which the individual is responsible.

Yours sincerely, STEWART SUTHERLAND, Chair, Royal Commission on Long Term Care for the Elderly. Hannibal House, 5th Floor, Elephant & Castle, SEI 6TE. March 2

From the Group Director of Life and Pensions at Norwich Union

Sir, The royal commission's report on long-term care makes a number of extremely valuable recommendations. On funding, however, it is less

practical. The funding proposals must be judged in the light of political realities.

Advice for travellers From Mrs Diana Lamplugh, Director of The Suzy Lamplugh Trust Sir, in the light of recent events in Uganda (reports and leading article, March 3), may I remind everyone that, whilst the Government and

travel organisations have a duty to act on information they are given regarding potential dangers in foreign destinations, individual travellers should also be prepared to take responsibility for their own safety. There are many sources of information which a traveller can consult before choosing a destination. We worked with Oxford Brookes

University last year to launch a safe travel website (www.brookes.ac.uk/ worldwise), which gives updates every 48 hours on over 250 countries. These updates come directly from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. In addition, we would like to see more done by travel companies to

help ensure that travellers are safe. We applaud, for example, World wise: a passport to safer travel, published by Thomas Cook, and are calling for more travel operators to put some of their profits back into safety initiatives for travellers.

Yours sincerely, DIANA LAMPLUGH, Director. The Suzy Lamplugh Trust. 14 East Sheen Avenue, SW14 8AS. March 3.

From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Sir, No one can fail to be moved by the appalling and tragic loss of lives in Uganda. Your report (March 3) suggested

GM foods

From Dr Bernard Dixon

dangerous.

Sir, The most bizarre aspect of the hysterical climate now surrounding genetically manipulated foods (letters. February 17, 19 and 23) is the denigration of scientists, coupled with the apparently fashionable belief that food was safe until science and technology rendered it "unnatural" and

ment ministers, who gave invalid public assurance over BSE. What scientists did do was to investigate and pinpoint the cause of this condirion and to discover its link with human variant BSE.

More broadly, it is scientists and technologists (rather than ministers, environmental campaigners or journalists) who have provided the considerable portfolio of methods now used to combat food- and water-borne

Without scientific research we would simply not have known about Salmonella, Campylobacter, Escherichia coli 0157 and the many other micro-organisms responsible for deadly infections such as botulism, dysentery and cholera. Without science, we would not have been able to develop pasteurisation, sterilisation, posals would have a very different outcome. They would increase government pending - all seem to be agreed on

greatest need. The commission pro-

the need for this - but would direct this new money to people who can, and already do, pay for their own care. This will still leave many people with moderate incomes facing large

care bills. Two commission members, as you report, recognise this problem and one seeks to solve it through the development of partnership schemes. Norwich Union proposed one such scheme, which could cut insurance costs by up to 25 per cent. It would

establish a clear demarcation of individual and state responsibilities for long-term care. People with the resources to pay for their care would be obliged to do so for four years after which the State would take on the responsibility up to an agreed maximum. Those who cannot realistically afford to pay would continue to be cared for through state funding. Partnership schemes are a realistic

and affordable proposal and would not require the development of compulsory insurance - which the Government would be unlikely to accept. Yours sincerely,

PHILIP G. SCOTT. Group Director, Life and Pensions, Norwich Union, PO Box 48, 25-27 Surrey Street, Norwich NRI 3TA. March 3.

From Mr Peter Orr

Sir, Your leader comments sensibly and with restraint on the recommendations by the royal commission, but distances itself from the plight of those who, near to or past retirement age, cannot hope "to save or insure for the future".

The present arrangements for care of the elderly and, in particular, those suffering from Alzheimer's disease can, in certain cases, prove harsh and punitive. Urgently needed now is some sort of transitional scheme to care for people who today can no

that only three people in the Foreign Office work on our travel advice. In fact, our advice originates in our 221

knowledge and experience of hun-dreds of staff. This is co-ordinated and issued by a small professional group in London, but literally hundreds of individuals contribute to it from first-

I had hoped I had made this clear at the seminar we held last week - the our travel advice. We received many useful suggestions: and we shall hope to keep in touch with all those who can helpfully contribute to improving the speed and accuracy with which our advice is disseminated.

Yours sincerely ELIZABETH SYMONS, Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Whitehall, SWIA 2AH.

March 3.

hand knowledge.

From Mr Michael Ackroyd Sir, As a European well used to travelling in Egypt, I take great exception to Edward Welsh's generalisation (feature, "How safe is your holiday". March 3) about the "vast, impover-ished peasantry" and their "fanatacism". It behoves all travellers to whatever destination to take sensible

precautions and to respect local customs. Foreign Office advice is readily available. Far from channelling its frustra-tions against tourists, this same vast peasantry, among whom I am fortunate enough to have several close friends, are among the most hos-

pitable people on the planet. Yours faithfully. MICHAEL ACKROYD. PO Box 12950, London W6 8GY.

mra@dial.pipex.com March 3.

similar infections.

It was not scientists, but govern-

diagrae. water purification and other techniques which are vital to combat these diseases. Nor could we have produced the antibiotics used to cure lifethreatening cases of typhoid fever and

Our defences against food- and water-borne disease are by no means perfect. But we should remember that nature", which is suddenly popular with well-nourished Westerners, is characterised not by wholesome, pristine purity, but by plagues and pesti-lences, many of them associated with food and water. We are privileged that science has helped to deliver us from much of that.

Yours faithfully. BERNARD DIXON. 130 Cornwall Road. Ruislip Manor, Middlesex HA4 6AW. March l.

From Ms Sue Pheasey

Sir, If Tony Blair really is in favour of genetically modified food, there is just one person he needs to convince of its safety - Delia Smith.

Yours faithfully, SUE PHEASEY. 30 Broad Oaks Road, Solihull, Warwickshire B91 LJB. March 2

Business letters, page 31

it would require only gentle tweak-

appropriate action.

ing of fiscal policy to accommodate the royal commission's recommendations on an ad hoc basis, and provide immediate assistance for those now too old, too feeble, too helpless to fend for themselves. This, surely, is a debt of honour which should be discharged without hesitation. Yours faithfully,

enjoying youth and middle age can read the warning signs and take

PETER ORR. 17 Berkley Drive, Guisborough, Cleveland TS14 7LX.

From Mrs Valerie Townsend Sir, It is incorrect to say (report, February 27) that the State meets the full cost of elderly care if savings fall below £10,000.

Local county councils decide an "expect to pay" level which bears little relation to the real cost of quality care. In this county the level is currently £241 per week (£1.43 per hour) for the total physical and social residential care of a very dependent person. Relatives makes up the shortfall in fees to enable the person to enter the

home of their choice. Yours sincerely, V. TOWNSEND (Proprietor), Ashdown House Residential Home for the Elderly. Ashworth Street, Daventry, Northamptonshire NNII 4AR.

From Mrs Lillian Taylor

Sir, Just to put into perspective the Government's apparent reluctance to adopt the royal commission's proposals at an annual cost of £1.2 billion, this is roughly equivalent to half the pre-tax profits of NatWest Bank, announced last week (report, Business, February 25).

Yours faithfully, LILLIAN TAYLOR, Ashdown, St Lawrence Avenue. Bidborough, Kent TN4 0XA.

News at Ten

From Sir David Nicholas missions abroad, drawing on the

Sir, News at Ten on Independent Television comes to an end this Friday. When the Independent Television Commission decided last November to uphold the ITV companies' request to kill off News at Ten, it was reported that the commission members' vote was seven to three. The ITC did not disclose which way individual mem-

bers voted. Former ITN colleagues and I have since learned that one of the key votes to end News at Ten was cast by Sir Michael Checkland, former Director-General of the BBC and now a member of the commission. No one would question his integrity, but over the decades News at Ten was a troublesome competitor to BBC News. I wonder whether Sir Michael, as former Editor-in-Chief of BBC journalism, felt he had a conflict of

interest in the issue? It would seem to me to be like giving Rommel a say in disbanding the Eighth Army.

Yours sincerely, DAVID NICHOLAS Editor, ITN, 1977-89; Chairman, 1989-91). Lodge Stables, 2F Kidbrooke Park Road, SE3 0LW.

Millennium Moment From Mrs H. W. T. Willoughby

March 2.

Sir, The reported statement by a spokesman for the new Millennium Experience Company that "Church leaders would be welcome guests" at the midnight millennium celebration in the Dome (report, February 25; see also letter, March 4) - and in the context of your report these "guests" would seem to be the Archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster - must surely rank as the most patronising

statement of all time. Yours faithfully, HILARY WILLOUGHBY, 2 The Grange, Mere, Warminster, Wiltshire BAIZ 6DZ.

Where now brown cow?

From Professor Michael J. Stock Sir, Robin Otter (letter, March 3) claims that the hide of Edward Jenner's red-brown Gloucester cow can be seen in the Gloucester Folk Museum. However, we have a redbrown cow's hide on display in our medical school library that is said to be "Blossom", the cow from which the milkmaid Sarah Nelmes contracted

St George's is very proud of its association with Dr Jenner: we have a Jenner Society, a Jenner Wing and his bust sits in our foyer - so the possibility that Blossom was not his cow is very disconcerting. Perhaps he had more than one?

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL J. STOCK, Department of Physiology, St George's Hospital Medical School, Tooting SW17 ORE. stockm@sehms.ac.uk March 4.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 4: The Queen this morning visited The Young Vic Theatre, London SEI, and met leachers and children from the Sacred Heart School, Southwark attending a

theatre workshop. The Queen then visited the Lyceum Theatre, London WCZ, and met theatre staff and members of the cast of Oklahoma!

The Queen subsequently visited the Almeida Theatre and rehearsal rooms. London Ni, and met members of the casts of Speer and

Plenty.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited Angels & Bermans, theatre costumiers. London NWI.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh attended a lunch host-ed by The Society of London Theatre at The Ivy Restaurant. London WCI.

Her Majesty, Patron, this after-noon visited the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, London WCI. The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited the Royal National Theatre, London SEI, to see the technical refurbishment of the

His Royal Highness subsequentvisited the Adelphi Theatre, London WC2, and met members of the cast of Chicago.

The Duke of Edinburgh later visited the Royal Court Youth theatre at the Duke of York's Theatre, London WC2. The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited Central Saint

Martin's College of Art and Design, London WI. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a performance of the Royal National Theatre's production of Oklaho-

ma! at the Lyceum Theatre, London WC2. ST JAMES'S PALACE March 4: The Prince of Wales today visited Clwyd where he was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Clwyd, Sir William

His Royal Highness this morn-ing visited Brickfields Pond. Rhyl.

Birthdays today

engagements The Duke of Edinburgh will visit the Northern General Hospital, The Devonshire Quarter, Sheffield University and Sheffield Hallam University, from 9.45am. Adrian Ryan

A service of celebration and thanks-

Today's royal

giving for the life and work of Adrian Ryan, painter, will be held on March 30 at 2.30pm, at St James's, Piccadilly. Lord Dunsany A memorial service for Randal Plunkett, 19th Baron Dunsarry, will be held at St Patrick's Cathe-

dral, Dublin, on Sunday, March 21, 1999, at 3.15 pm. Blundell's School The Hon Francis Maude, MP.

officially opened the new Library

and IT Centre and delivered the

inaugurai Blundeli's Lecture at Blundeli's School yesterday.

Baron Trotman The life barony conferred upon Sir Alexander James Troman has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Trotman, of Osmotherley in the County of

North Yarkshire.

Cefndy Enterprise's Healthcare in His Royal Highness this after-

noon visited Penbedir Farm, near Mold, where he toured the farm and held a discussion with a group of upland farmers. The Prince of Wales then visited

to see the community conservation project and meet some Prince's

The Prince of Wales later visited

Ruthin Gaol, a historic building which is to be improved and BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 4: The Duke of York this morning opened the British Council Fashion Design Workshop at Ho Chi Minh University College of Fine Arts.

Afterwards. His Royal High-ness visited the Wellcome Trust Project and Ho Chi Minh Hospital for Tropical Diseases. Later The Duke of York visited

the World Health Organisation's Conference on "Rolling Back Ma-This afternoon His Royal High-

ness arrived in Hanoi. Later, The Duke of York attendd an opening ceremony for the Hilton Hanoi Opera Hotel.

This evening His Royal Highness attended a reception for Chevening Scholarship students, MOD English language students and alumni of British Universities at the Hilton Hotel.

at the Hilton Hotel, Later, The Duke of York attended a dinner for the Commonwealth Ambassadors at the Press Club.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 4: The Princess Royal,
President, Riding for the Disabled
Association, this morning attended
a Council Meeting at Saddlers'
Hall, 40 Gutter Lane, Cheapside,
London ECC.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, The Basic Skills Agency, this evening attended a Residential Meeting Reception at Cheltenham Park Hotel, Circnesser Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucester-shire (Mr Henry Elwes).

The Hon David Astor, CH, 87: Lady Elizabeth Basset, Extra Wornan of the Bederamber to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 91; the Right Rev Thomas Butler, Bishop of Southwark, 59; Admiral Sir Simon Cassels, 71; the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, KT, 72: Earl Grey, 60: Mr Anthony Hedg-Earl Grey, 60; Mr Anthony Hedges, composer, 68; Archbishop Bruno Heim, former Apostolic ProNuncio, 88; Mr R.A.E. Herbert,
former President, Royal Hordcultural Society, 65; Mr Richard
Hickoz, conductor, 51; Mrs Am
Longley, former Head Mistress,
Roedean School, 57; Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden, KT, 73; Miss
Elecute March, extract 89; Sir Elspeth March, actress, 88; Sir Derek Mitchell, former civil servent, 77: Lord Norton of Louth, 48: Miss Elaine Paige, singer, 51; Sir Jack Rumbold, former president, Industrial Tribunals, 79; Mr Ron Sandler, chief executive, Lloyd's of London, 47; Mr Barry Tuckwell. horn soloist and conductor, 68; Mr Des Wilson, former co-chairman,

tion, 58. **Paviors' Company** The following have been installed officers of the Paviors' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr Peter D.M. Gell:

Upper Warden, Mr John E. Cruse, Renter Warden, Mr Keith C.

Funeral service

Sir Anthony Nating The funeral service for Sir Anthony Nutting was held yesterday at Holy Trinity, Brompton. The Rev Alistair Millar officiated and Mr Robin Beare gave an address.

Among those present were:
Margarin Lady Nuting twidow, Sir John
Nuting, OC, and Lady Nuting and Mr and
Mrs David Nuting tens and daughters-intawi, Mrs Zara Nuting thanghert, Mr
James Nuting, Miss Victoria Nuting, Miss
Relinda Nuting, Miss Serena Nuting, Miss
Alexandra Nuting and Mrs Kaya Folter
tyrandchildrent, Mr and Mrs John Paul
Rathbone tetepson and stepdamghterinavi, Mr Michael Rathbone tetepson, the
Hon Nichalas and Mrs Beany and Lady
Miranda Stewart (Sap grandchildren), Mr
and Mrs Otio de Cordoba (brother-in-law
and sister-in-law), Mrs Ronald Nuting,
Miss Samuniba Cope, Mr and Mrs
Nicholas Nuting, Mrs Ronald Nuting,
Miss Samuniba Cope, Mr and Mrs
Nicholas Nuting, Mrs Ronald Nuting,
Miss Samuniba Cope, Mr and Mrs
Nicholas Nuting, Mrs Oliver Brooke, Sir
Nigel Strutt and other members of the
lamily and friends.

Service dinner

HMS Victory Captain Sir Donald Gosling, RNR, was the guest of benour at a dinner given by senior officers of the Royal Navy last night in HMS Victory in recognition of his service in the Royal Naval Reserve Air branch and for his support of Naval charities. Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, First Sea Lord, was the principal host and Admiral Sir John Brigstocke, Second Sea Lord. presided. Among others present

Dinners

Lord Mayor of Wests The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayor-ess of Westminster were the hosts at the annual civic reception and dinner held last night at the Landmark London. Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Members of both Houses of Parliament, representatives of the Churches, the Judiciary, HM Forces, the emergency services, the arts, commerce, voluntary and charitable organisations, Greater London Mayors and other friends of Westminster were

Shipwrights' Company
The Eart of Inchcape, Prime Warden of the Shipwrights' Com-pany, presented certificates to sea cadets from the London area taking up berths in TS Royalist, and afterwards presided at a dinner held at Ironmongers' Hall. Rear-Admiral Patrick Rowe, Depu-ty Master of Trinity House, was the principal speaker. Among

others present were: The Master of the Tallow Chapdlers' Company, the Master of the Company, the Master of the Company of Master Master of the Company of Master Mariners, the President of the Royal Institution of Neval Architects, the Chairman of Lloyd's Register of Shipping and the Chairman of the Saltic Exchange.

Holborn Law Society
The President of the Holborn Law Society, accompanied by Mrs Mor-gan, presided at the annual dinner held last night in the Great Hall, Lincoln's lan. Among those present were:

The Master of the Bulls and Lady Woolf, the Vice-Chanceller of the Supreme Court, the Chairman of the Bar, the President of the Law Society and Mrs Matchews, Mr Feston Bresier, the past, Dean of the Amsterdam Bar and Mrs Hayardmy and the predicted of local Law Societies and their Indies. The Institution of Chemical

Engineers The Institution of Chemical Engineers' Annual Dinner was held last night at The Savoy. The President, Mr G.A. Campbell. welcomed as principal guest speaker Sir Clive Thompson, President

Foundation for Science

and Technology Lord Jenkin of Roding, Chairman of the Council of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Royal Society.



The second secon

Maria Nicholls, 19, from Downham Market, Norfolk, who yesterday became one of the first two female musicians to join the band of the Household Cavalry. After an 13-week course in basic horsemanship she and other recruits went to Hyde Park Barracks, London, to take part in the Kit Ride Pass Off — the graduation ceremony which shows their ability to control their horses while wearing ceremonial uniform

Luncheon

City & Guilds Mr Paul Water, Chairman of the Council, and Honorary Officers of the City and Guilds of London institute, were the hosts at a huncheon held yesterday at Cloth-workers' Hall before the annual meeting. The Hon Sir David Ramsbotham, Chief Inspector of HM Prisons, was the guest speaker. Mr Wates presented awards of Fellowship and City & Guilds Gold Medals for Excellence to the

Peliowship (PCGI): Dr Arthur W Brace, Mr Mark F Grimwade, Professor Gouling F Hewitt, Dr B P Marsoning, Professor John H Sowey, Professor Felot, Weinberg, Gold Mechalists: Mr Pras: E Greenfeld, MCGI, Mrs Curlstine A Howard, MCGI. Mr Samon M Jarrett, ACGI. The Master and Clerk of the Clothworkers' Company and the Vice-President of City & Guilds were among those present.

Meeting Three Faiths Forum

The Speaker presented Grand Rabbin Rene Samuel Strat of Paris with the ICCI Interfaith Gold Medallion at a meeting of the Three Faiths Forum held yesterday at the House of Commons, by courtesy of Mr Ivor Caplin, MP. Sir Sigmund Stemberg presided. **Inns of Court** School of Law

1998-99 Bar Vocational Course carty reside Pass List (in alphabetical order): Very competent Blackett-Ord, B J (L); Carnochan, I

W (M): Grant, D E (I): Housley, W J (L): Pledge, E L (G): Robertson, V (I): Saunders, M E (L): Thompson, R J (L): Walton, R J (L).

Abbaud W (I); Adamson, B M (I);
Ainsworth, N J (M); Allen, N N (C);
Bastable, G R (I); Beck, L J (M);
Begum, J (G); Bhachu, S (L);
Blythin, D A (L); Booth, H E (M); Blythin, D. A. (L); Booth, H. E. (M); Brewer, M. L. (I); Burgess, C. J. (C); Burkinshaw, A. W. (L); Burgess, C. J. (C); Burkinshaw, A. W. (L); Burgess, C. J. (C); Calins, S. T. (G); Choudhury, A. R. (L); Christou, C. (M); Corrish, J. B. (L); Craig, R. J. (L); Daniels, L. A. (I); Danwers, J. (L; De Silva, S. N. (G); Danvers, J. (L; Dear, J. E. (L); Deaer, J. L. (L); Dear, J. E. (L); Deeen, P. B. (M); Duky, R. (I); Eaton, G. D. (G); Edwards, N. D. (L); Espindola, M. (G); Gibbons, M. (L); Green, D. A. (L); Green, G. A. (I); Grey, T. J. (I); Harwick, E. (L); Harwood, L. J. (L); Harwick, E. (L); Houbowicz, R. P. (I); Howes, P. A. (L); Hugh-Jones, R. L.

(L): Hughes, O (R): James, R I (L): Keier, V (M): khan, T (L): Komarasinghe, C (G): Lefrancois, L (M): Lloren, M A (L): Louis, A H (R): Loy, F (L); Mahalingam, J (G): Marapana, N S (L): McCorthy, J (G): McDougail, J (R): McDoweil, D A (A): Molloy, K (M): Mount, H F (M): Newport, M A (M): Ng. J P (L): Palar, S (L): Pascoe, S (G): Percival, J F (M): Pershad, R (L): Pesers, S L (G): Pilgrim, L P (M): Pollard, C A (R): Porter, R W (R): Pritchard, S F (M): Rajendra, R (L): Rashid, H (L): (i): Forter, & W (f): Princitard, S F (M): Rajendra, R (L): Rashid, H (L): Rathour, L V (L): Rubin Mobideen, R (M): Saul, A M (L): Sayed, R (f): Scothern, P (G): Seepersad, M R (f): Schanayagarn, R (L): Simita, M (M): Skitnell, E A (M): Smith, M (M): Spencer, G C (G): Sievenson, S J (L): Sufficient D R (f): Seeperson, S J (L): Sullivan, D R (I); Sunderji, F N (L); Thomas, A (G); Torrens, B I (L); Ullah, M (M); Walls, K A (G); Wong, K A (L); Woodford, C J (G).

Legal appointment Mr Emrys Roberts to be a member of the Council on Tribunals for

three years from February I. . :

Forthcoming marriages

Mr I.D.J Arthur and Miss C.A. Reid

The engagement is announced between lain, son of Mr and Mrs Dave Arthur, of East Horsley, Surrey, and Caroline, younger daughter of the late Mr Michael Reid and of Mrs Malcolm Reynell, of Bransgore, Dorset.

Mr C.P. Brown and Miss S.L. Birch

The engagement is announced between Phillip, son of Mr Clive Brown, of Epsorn, Surrey, and Mrs Christine Thom, of Dorking, Surrey, and Louise, younge daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Birch, of Hampstead, London.

Mr M. Demison and Miss G.L. Robertson The engagement is announced between Matthew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Dennison, of

Ashbrook, Sunderland, and Craime, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gregor Robertson, of Nantglyn, Denbighshire. Mr E.R. Donald nd Miss K.L. Wickens

The engagement is announced between Edward, youngest son of Mr Robin and the Hon Mrs Donald, of Bathampton, Bath, and Kirstle, daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Wickens, of Reigate, Surrey. Mr J. Dorman

and Miss S. Waterstone The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Seamus Dorman, and Sylvie, daughter of Mr Timothy Waterstone and Mrs Charles Laws

Mr O.R. Good and Miss A.M. Allinson The engagement is announced between Oliver, younger son of Mr and Mrs Dudley J. Good, of Smbbings, Maidenhead, and Angela, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Allimson, of Bramhope, Leader

Mr J.P. Grundy and Miss L.C.N. Cox

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs Alan Grundy, of Standish. Lancashire, and Lisa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Neill Cox. of Henley-on-Thames, Mr J.W.H. Hodgson

and Miss F.C. Day and Miss F.C. Day
The engagement in announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Hodgson, of Warfield, Berkshire, and Felicity, daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Day, of Hamble, Hampshire.

1778; Flora Macdonald, Jacobite,

Sloye, 1790; Franz Mesmez, physician and pioneer of hygnotism, Miersburg, Austria, 1815; Pierre Simon, Marquis de Laplace, astronomer, 1827; Count Alessandro

Volta, physicist, Como, 1827; Sir Henry Rawlinson, orientalist, Lon-

don, 1895; Edgar Lee Masters, poet and novelist, Philadelphia, 1950;

Mr J.U. Hales and Miss M.J. Benson The engagement is announced between James, son of the late Rev

and Mrs G.F. Hales, of Claxby Hall Lincolnshire and Mary eidest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs J.E. Benson, of Walwick Farmhouse, Northumberland.

Mr W.E.H. Parker and Miss S.M. Maturin Baird The engagement is announced between William, son of Dr and Mrs John Parker, of Coichester. Esser, and Sophia, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Maturin-Baird, of Wissington, Suffolk,

Mr J-C. Reding and Miss L. Crosby The engagement is announced between Jean-Claude, younger son of Mr and Mrs Jean Reding, of Heisdorf, Luxembourg, and Louise Caroline Aimée, daughter of Mr

and Mrs John A. Crosby. of Garnish, Luxembourg. Mr J.A. Richardson

and Dr A.M.J. Baldwin The engagement is announced between Jason, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Clive Richardson, of Chobham, Surrey, and Alison, third daughter of Mr and Mrs John Baldwin, of Nether Exe,

Mr C.F. Royle and Miss T.V. Mugford The engagement is armounced between Charles Fanshawe, son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs A.F. Royle, of Lancaster, and Tracy Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.R. Mugford, of Sunbury-on-

Flight Lieutenant G. Summer RAF, and Miss C.J. Morse

and Miss C.J. Morse
The engagement is announced between Gregory, eldest son of Mr Richard Sumner, stepson of Mrs Kathleen Sumner and son of Mrs Jane Fowler, and Carolyn, younger daughter of the late Captain David Morse, RN, and of Mrs David Morse, of Powerstock, Dorset. Mr.T.C.C. Williams

and Miss K.R. Moody The engagement is announced between Thomas Christopher Charles, younger son of Mr Christopher Williams, of Herne Bay, Kent, and Mrs Gay Sharpe and stepson of Colonel Trevor Sharpe, of logerstone Foy, Herefordshire, and Karen Ruth. only daughter of Mr and Mrs Douglas Moody, of Boston, Lincolnshire.

Anniversaries

Sergei Prokofiev, composer, Mos-BIRTHS: David Bruce, David II, King of Scotland reigned 1329-71, cow, 1953; Joseph Stalin, Soviet leader, Moscow, 1953; Anna Akhmatova, poet, Moscow, 1966; Ring or Scottand region 1529/1,
Dunfermitine, 1324; Gerbardus
Mercasor, cartographer, Rupelmonde, Beigium, 1512; Antoine de
la Mothe Cadillac, explorer and
founder of the city of Denvit, Les
Laumets, France, 1658; Sir Austen
Layard, archaeologist and excavator of Nineveh, Paris, 1817; Sir
Charles Thomson, naturalist, Bon-Tiro Gobbi, baritone, Rome, 1984. British troops opened fire on a divilian crowd in Boston, Massachusetts, killing five people, in what was dubbed "The Boston, Massacre* 1770. Charles Thomson, naturalist, Bon-syde, Lothian, 1830; Sir Henry Wilson, field marshal, Edgeworth, Covent Garden Theatre was destroyed by fire. 1856. Co Longford, 1864; William Henry Beveridge, 1st Baron Beveridge, elections, 1933. DEATHS: Antonio Correggio, painter, Correggio, Italy, 1534; Thomas Arne, composer, London,

The Nazis won almost half the seats in the German general

The Spitfire made its first flight from Eastleigh aerodrome, Southampton, 1936.

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The Earl of Stockton to be Chair-man of the British section of the European League for Economic Co-operation in succession to Lord Kingsland, QC. Mr Christopher Saunders was elected Hon Treasur-Saunders was elected Hon Treasur-er in succession to Lord Dahren-

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BIRTHS

BARNES - On Monday 22nd February at Stoke Mandville, to Willemieu (née Meuraing) and Graham, a son, Frederik William Peter.

BONHAM CARTER - On 26th February to Katie (née Dawnay) and Crispin, son, Kit, a brother for

BATES - To Brigid and Simon on 26th February.

EDWARDS - On February
11th at The Portland
Hospital, to Emma (note
Myers) and Chris, an
adorable wonderful son,
Rory Taylor Cameron.
HEON-DUMENTAT - On
February 17th at The
Portland Hospital, to
Audrey and Bernard, a
daughter, Alaxira Clara, a
sister for Meles Pierrette.
MURRAY/PERDINO - On 1st
February 1999 to Dereas

February 1999 to Dorces Murray and Gerard Verdino, a wonderful son, Marco Charles Joseph. TREURY - On March 1st, to Karen and Graham, a son, Jude Reman Ralph, a brother for Aidan

DEATHS

ALDREDGE - William Mark, younger son of Dr and Mrs Geoffrey Aldridge and father of James and David; suddenly on March 3rd.

ASHBOURNE - Trevor John on 28th February aged 46, loving hushand, lather, son and brother. Funeral Service on Monday 8th Service on Monday 8th March at St Mark's Church, Pessiake at 12.30pm. All enquiries to Sheriock & Sons, tel: (01306) 882266.

DEATHS AWDE - Patricis Mary peacefully on 1st March at Newstead Nursing Home, Highgate after fighting filmess with character,

illness with character, humour and patience, aged St. Greatly missed by her family and friends. Funeral at St Marylebone Crematorium, East End Road, Loudon N2 to Monday, March 5th at 1pm. Enquiries to Leyerton & Sons, Funeral Directors, 0181 444 5753.

GREAN - James Anthony
(Tony) peacefully at home
- dearest busband of Celia
and the late Ann, much
loved and devoted father
of Andrew, Jeremy and
lan, Private cremation to
be followed by a
Thanksgiving Service at St
Mary's Parish Church,
Monmouth at 2.30 pm on
Friday 12th March, Family
flowers only. Donations if
desired to be divided
between St Mary's Church,
Monmouth and The
Anthony Binnian Organ
Bursaty for Monmouth
School, Enquiries to David
Stockwall & Co., 16
Glendower Street,
Monmouth, tel: (01600)
713750.

SROCK - Patricia (née Folkes) on March 3rd 1998 in Ontario, Canada, in ber 30th year. Wife of the late Jeffrey Brock, much loved mother of Alex, Jeffrey and William.

BYRNE - Edward Michael on lat March 1999 peacefully after a long illness. Dearly leved husband of Christine, proud father of Hilary, Catherine, Eagh, Alastair. Rachel and Victoria. Grandfether of Robert, William, Eleanor, Ismie, Simon. Charlotte and Edward. Requiem Mass at St Christopher's Church, Dallas Road, Chessa, Surrey on Friday 12th March 1.00 am. Plowers to WA Truelove & Sons. douations for The Gurkha Welfare Trust c/o 0181 642 3300.

CAMERON - Milli, adored mother of Jean and Gay and deeply leved grandmother of Charlie and Fanny, Died peacefully at home on 3rd March 1999, aged 97. Private cremation at Private cremation at Mortiake. Memorial Service 8th April at 12

noon at St Mary's Parish Church, Richmond. Everyone welcome, Fami flowers only. Donations t Royal Star and Gerter Homs, Richmosd. Enquiries to T H Sanders 0181 949 1551. CORK, and ORRERY - On
Tuesday 2nd March 1999,
peacefully at Rosemary
Park Nursing Home,
Hademere, aged 50 years.
Mary Gabrielle, Dowaget
Countees beloved wife of
the late Patrick Reginald,
thirteenth Earl. Cremation
private. Domations if
degred to Alzheimer's
Disease Society, Gordon
House, 10 Greencost Piace
London SWIP 1FEL

CORNAVIALIA SONES - Marie
Evelyn Joan (nee
Hammersley-Smith). Aged
85. Wildow of Arthur and
mother of Guy, Mark, Paul
and Dan. After a fullife,
died peacefully on
Weckneeday 3rd March.
There will be a private
cremation, to be followed
by a Service of
Thankagiving at
Swyncombe Church.
Rotherfield Grey, Ozon, on
a date to be announced.

date to be an CRESWELL - Pescefully at home on 28th February, Nick, parmer of Richard, father of Belinds and Mandy, grandfather of Josh Dearly Joved by many. All friends welcome at Iken Church, Soffielk on Tuesday 9th March 2.30pm. Flowers, daffodlisonly please, to Tony Browns Funeral Service. Segmundham, Suffelk.

COMATH - Kaethe (née Kopperi) peacefully in Cornwall on 4th March 1999 aged 87. Very much leved mother of Renée and grandmother of Catherine and Charles. Funeral

EVARS - Una Maura (néo Flyan), loving wife of John Henry and mother of Peter John passed over peacefully at Frimley Park Hospital on Thursday 4th March 1999, aged 73 years. Will be very sadly missed. Donathons in Heu of flowers to Intensive Care Unit at Frimley Perk Hospital. E. Finch & Sons (01252 322281).

GOLD - Constance Mary
(Molly) peacefully on 26th
February, Private
Cremation, Memorial
Service at St Johns
Church, Stansand on
Friday 12th March 1995 at
1.20pm. Denations, if
whised, payable to
Arthritis Research or The
British Red Cress, c/o
Daniel Robinson & Soms
Ltd., 3 Bullifields,
Sawbridgeworth, Harts
CM21 9DR. Tel 01279
722476.

GORDON DUFF - On 2nd
March after an illness
borns with such dignity
and courage, Roderick,
MRE, MA, Lt Col, iste
Ousen's Own Highlanders
Durling husband of
Patricis and much loved
father of Nicola and
Randal. A friend and
support to many others.
Funeral service at St
George's Garrison Church,
Bullord Camp, Thereday
11th March at 2 pes
followed by cromation.
Thanksgiving Service on
28rd April 2 pes,
Shrivenhum Parish
Church and afterwards at
RMCS, Denetions in his
mentary to The Royal Star memory to The Royal Star & Carter Home, Richmond, TW16 6RR, telephone 0181-940 7314.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

GRAVES - On 3rd March
1999 at St Augustine's
Nursing Hume, St
Leonardo-on-Sea, after a
abort lilmeas, Lawrence
Frank, aged 75 years,
formerly of National
Provincial Bank and
National Westminater
Bank, Beloved husband of
Autoinetta see Vertrooljea
and father of Beruard,
Edward, Lambert and
Antoinetta Pubert and
Antoinetta Pubert

Antohetta Funeral
Service at 11.30 am
Service at 11.30 am
Wednesday 10th March at
St Mary Sur of the Sea
Church, High Street,
Hastings, followed by
burial at the Roman
Catholic Cametery, St
Andrew's Church,
Fairlight and them a brief
reception at the Fairlight
Lodge Hotel, Fairlight
2 de Angestine's Foundation
League of Friends' may be
sent to A.C. Towner Ltd.
2 & 4 Normen Road, St
Lecuards-on-See, East
Sonser, TN37 6NH.

GUIST - Constance Anna (née Rogers), peacefully in Cannes, France on 20th February 1999, Formerly Librarian at Ashmolean Musaim. Oxford. Widow of Professor B.C. Tack.* Gunn. Private funeral has taken place. Any communication to nephew B.H. Rogers 01935 474750.

HARROP - Frances May on
the March peacefully in
The Pines Nursing Home
in Putney aged 93 years.
Destry loved mother and
mother-in-law of Peter
and Margaret and devoted
grandmother of Andrew
and Nicholas, Cremation
Service at Martlake on
Thursday 11th March at
typm, Flowers to T.H.
Senders 4 Sons, 44T Upper
Richmond Road West,
London 5W14.

HOPKINS - Pescafully at Housel Hempetond Hospital after a short illness Richard Robert Hopkins C.B.E. aged 88 years. Loving father of Julian and Jennifer, snuch loved grandpe of Justin. Julia, Emma. Toby and Ben. Funeral Service at West Hertfordshire Crematorthun, Watford on Teseday March 9th at 3.20pm. Family Howers only please, Donations if

Nation. Family Howers only please, Donations if desired to Mecular Degenerative Disease Society, Donations and countries to L.C. Weston F.D., No.25, 17 Leyton F.D., No.25, 17 Leyton Coad, Harpenden, Heriz, ALS 2HT. Tel: 01582

JOHNSON - Durch John
O.B.E. of Turbury, Died
pencefully on February
27th after a long illness
petiently borne. Memorial
Service at St Mary's
Church, Turbury,
Thursday 11th March at
200 pm. Densitions in Heu
of Rowers for The
Parkinsons Disease
Society of J Hytton &
Sons, Fuheral Directors,
22 St Peters Street,
Suppendill, Burton upon
Trunt, Staffordshire DE15
SAW. Tel 61233 518685.

LONG - Rosalind (of Woldingham, Survey) our Woldingham, Survey) our wonderful mother, dangher, sister, sister-in-law, sunt and friend, died on 2nd Murch after a courageous struggle against cancer, aged 57. Her functal will be held at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Exendence Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill, Suncy at 2,00 pm on Thursday 11th March. Piesse and donations, if

Please and donations, if desired, in place of flowers, psyable to one of her (avourite charities: Action Aid, Amnasty Descriptions) or the International or the Cardinal Home Centre, sure of Alex Jones Funeral Directors, 1 East Grinstend Road, Linglisid, Surrey RH7 SEP. (Talaphone 01342 832534)

Margaret Aline (Patry).
Suddenly on 1st March,
1999, in Beth, Desnly
beloved wife of David and
much loved sister of
Bestrice. Service on
Treeday 18th March at
2pm at Putney Vale
Cremetorium, Londom
SW15. Family Bowers
only, Donartons, if desired,
to Norfolk Wildlife Trust,
72 Cathedral Close,
Norwich, NR1 4DP.

MARIJES - On 2rd March 1999 Marguerite aged 86 years, formerly of Scalin-ridge Dornet, Requiem Mass at the Roman Catholite Church Marabull on Friday 12rd March et 11 am followed Marnhull on Friday 12th Marnhull on Friday 12th March at 11 am followed by internent. Enquiries to AJ, Wakely & Sons 01303 423725.

McCAW - Commander Alan William Thebran aged 90 on March 3rd at home. For 36 years blissfully married to the late Patricia, Much loved so father to Inn, stepfather to Brian and David Nicholson and Mary Christie, brother to Jame Bowthy, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Putney Vale Crematorium 10.20 am Wednesday March 10th Mamorial Service to be amounced later. Family Lovers only please but donations welcome to Royal Marsdam Hospital or Burtwood Christian Centre for Healthcure and Ministry, Groombridge, Kent TN3 SPY.

McLINRE-James Robert, born 11th July 1998, died peacefully at Great Ormond Street Hospital or 28th February 1899, Much lowed and of Douglas and Isyne. Funeral on Tuesday 9th March at Kingston Cramatorium at 11.40am. Family flowers only. Donations plasse to G.O.S.H. Children's Charity

NICHOLSON - (née Fuge). On March 1st, peacefully in lest sleep, Patricia, dear wife of Robert Nicholson, mother of Brian, Ceorge and Robert, and Granny of Patricia, Brian, Bobby and John. Cremstion private. Requiem mass at Secred Hearts Church, Chariton Kingz, Cheitenbarn, on Saturdey 6th March at 2pm. No Bowers, but doubtions if desired to Crisis 0171 856 8332, or BACUP 0171 896 9003.

POOLE - Damian (son of the late Joseph and Judith Poole), suddenly on 2nd March 1999. His sieters and brother, Gillian, Katharine and Cuentin, niece and spoke Micola and Simon, brother-in-law Roger, and close friend Ann, give thanks for the gentle, whee and generous friendship he gave to them, to his friends and colleagues. Paneral, St George's Church, Altrincham, Manchester, 2.30pm, 11th March. Donations to St George's Bicentemary Fund rather than flowers. May thy portion this day be in peace, and thy dwelling in the heavenly Jerusalem'.

ROMSON - Derothy died peacefully at home 2nd March 1999. Dearly loved wife of George (deed), mother of Devid (died 17.1.99), Dunnam (deed) and Tricia, mother of Letties, ien and Andrew and great-grandmother of Jeoob. All enquiries to Frederick W. Paine 0181 977 1527.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

ROSSDALE - (née Clifton),
Illian Ruth, J.P. On March
2nd after seven months of
suifering terminal illness,
borne with characteristic
courage and sublims
acceptance. Dearly loved
and warmly loving Wife
(Peter), Mother (Simon,
Sally and Anthony),
Grandmother (Sophie,
Natasias, Sapphire,
Victoria, Thomas and
Annabel) and Sister (Jack,
Judy, Jan and Marcin).
Family funeral. No
Howers. Donations c/o
Southgates, Newmarket,
lor the Newmarket Day
Centre and St Nicholas
Hospice, Bury St
Edmunds, What happy
hours we have enjoyed, we
hold their memories still,
but they have left an
asching vold the world can
news fill. Service of

aching void the world can never fill. Service of thanksgiving for her life, April 22nd, 11.00 a.m., All Seints Church,

SEPSON - Peter Donald
Roughton (aged 72),
Suddenly on 3rd March
1989 at home in Shugham,
Adored by his wife, sons,
daughters-in-lew and his
prandchildren. Cremation
at Worth Crematorium,
Crawing, West Sussex, at
2.30pm on Wednesday 10th
March, Family flowers
only please. Donations to
The Woodland Trust
Antumn Park, Grantham,
Lincolnshire NG31 6LL.

STEPHENSON - On 3rd
March peacefully at hos
Uoa of Rectory Park,
Morpeth Northunberia
Dearly loved wife of
George Richard and
devoted mother of Roy,
mother-in-law of Anna
and grandmother of
Victoria, Lydia and
Amelia Senda mother-in-law of Anna and grandmother of Victoria, Lydia and Amelia. Service at St Andrew's Cemetery Chapel, Herbam, followed by burial on Tuesday 5th March at 10:30 am. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Marie Curie Cancer Care may be sent c/o I.W. Peters Puneral Directors, Wellwood House, Morpeth NE61 1SU. WALKER - John F on
February 28th, previously
of the Ministry of Defence,
after a long fibress at the
Retreat in Yorkshire. The
funeral will be st York
Crematerium (Fielders of
York) on Tuesday March
9th at 1.30 pm. Donations
to the Alzheimer's Disease
Society, 10 Greencoat Society, 10 Greence Place, SW1P IPEL

MEMORIAL SERVICES WITCHESON - A Memorial Meeting for Naomi Meeting for Naomi Mitchison will be held in the Upper Refectory University College, London on March 20th at 2.30 pm. All friends walcome. Enquiries 0181 940 4731.

BIRTHDAYS YARA Happy Birthday, you have been adopted in 1970. I sever-stopped looking you. From Res-tured your first mother test your states. Am Carrier 514 543 5345 or e-tund carriegoral sec WANTED

PARTICUS Rugby cickets. Describes and nation wide col tion Tel/F4z 0171 636 6662 RANK Dutch Snowhoarder la (daspension) seeking Remy (gazdunk cure of 8 kids). By Omenet in Fishen, Ranco Srd week February, Chirl forget the Boston, Please Commed

Mark COATS, for course purchased Bost pulse part. Please send exquires & details to box 5820 TICKETS URSENTLY ENGLAND . γ. FRANCE
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CAPTAIN DAVID **GOODWIN**



Goodwin on the bridge of the destroyer Duchess in the Mediterranean in the 1950s

Captain David Goodwin, CBE, DSC, Taxanto veteran and Chief of Staff, British Naval Mission, Washington. 1958-60, died on February 25 aged 87. He was born on February 2, 1912.

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DAVID GOODWIN was one of the last surviving Fleet Air Arm aircrew who attacked the Italian harbour of Taranto during the night of November 11, 1940, sinking three battle-ships, and a cruiser for the loss of only two aircraft. The Royal Navy annually com-memorates the Battle of Trafalgar on October 21, but such was the unprecedented success of this admirably planned and executed attack that it has since become the Elect Air Arm's special anniversary and s celebrated by it with equal, if not greater, fervour. Indeed, Admiral Cunning-

ham, the Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean fleet, had originally wanted the attack to take place on Trafalgar Day, but a fire in the aircraft carrier Illustrious delayed it, while bomb damage to the aviation spirit supply system of the carrier Eagle caused her to be withdrawn from the operation. Goodwin was the observer and navigator in one of the five Eagle. aircraft that were transferred to augment *Illustrious's* strike force of obsolescent Swordfish biplanes. His pilot was a Royal Marine captain, "Offic"

Taranto was heavily defended and the plan included diversionary bombing and the dropping of flares to silhouette. the targets. Two waves, each of 12 aircraft, went in an hour apart. Goodwin, in the second wave, recalled that although he had been in many night attacks he had never seen such a barrage of searchlights and anti-aircraft fire as that put up by the Italian ships and harbour defences. He was awarded an immediate DSC for his part in the attack.

Besides providing a much needed stimulus at home, the

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FLATSHARE

crippling of half the Italian battlefleet profoundly altered the strategic naval situation in the Mediterranean, freeing elements of the British Fleet for tasks elsewhere and allowing easier passage for con-

Joining Dartmouth in 1925 at 13, David Goodwin first served in the last of the coal-burning battleships, Empress of India. In the 1930s he served all over the Far East in the cruisers of the China Station. Later, when in the Mediterranean, he was in the cruiser London in 1936 when she became involved in latterday gunboat diplomacy, threatening a Turkish town and landing a contingent to enforce reparations after a diplomatic incident.

Volunteering for the Fleet Air Arm in 1936, Goodwin was appointed back to the Far East in the carriers Courageous and Eagle. At the outbreak of war Eagle was first employed looking for the German pocket battleship Graf Spee and escorting the first enormous convoy of Australian and New Zealand troops to the Middle

In 1940 with Italy entering the war, Eagle was the only British carrier east of Malta and was severely stretched by continuous flying operations, patrols, attacks on the Italian fleet by day and their harbours by night. Even when Eagle was in harbour in Alexandria, there was little respite for the air group who were sent with tents and baggage into the desert to help

the Eighth Army. After nearly three years in Eagle, Goodwin was sent home to command No 819 Swordfish squadron, an unusual appointment for an ob-. server and for someone as iunior as a lieutenant. Based in the Orkneys, his squadron patrolled the North Sea, waiting in vain for the German capital ships to emerge from the Norwegian flords. In 1943, after rapid promotion to commander, he was put in charge sons.

PERSONAL COLUMN

FLATSHARE

of the naval signal school at Arbroath where he taught the fledgling art of radar-control-led intercepts.

Appointed in command of the air group in the new light fleet carrier Glory, Goodwin sailed from England in 1945 for the Pacific. Arriving in Sydney just in time for the Japanese surrender, Glory was subsequently employed on repatriation and surrender missions. Goodwin's postwar career was notable for his two years in Australia as chief of staff to the Fourth Naval Member and for his work in helping to build up the Royal Australian Nevy's Fleet Air

On returning home, he was given command of the Navy's fighter direction and radar school, HMS Harrier, at Kete on the remote coast of Wales. isolated and perched on a diff, they had to make their own entertainment. On one occasion. Goodwin's C-in-C ordered bim to do something about the excessive birthrate amongst his 180 Wren person-

Later appointments included two years in command of the destroyer Duchess. His final tour was as chief of staff to the British Naval Mission in Washington, a busy period of collaboration on nuclear submarine and missile programmes. Retiring in 1960, he was appointed CBE. He spent the next five years

as the managing director of a newly-founded company set up at Pembroke Dock their cargoes at Milford Ha-

From 1965 the Goodwin family moved back to the New Forest and he worked as the chairman of numerous civil service selection boards and for the Ministry of Agricul-ture's farm housing board. He gave up these activities in 1977 when his wife Aline, whom he had married in 1937, became disabled. She died in 1991 and he is survived by their two

FLIGHTS

HARRY BLACKMUN

Harry Blackmun, Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court, died yesterday in Arlington, Virginia, aged 90. He was born in Nashville, Illinois, on November 12, 1908.

the time he retired in 1994. Harry Blackmun had accumulated more than 60,000 pieces of hate-mail, all of it connected with a single case. For it was Blackmun who wrote the ground-breaking majority opinion in the Roe v Wade case in 1973, which established a woman's constitutional right to abor-

At the centre of the case was "Jane Roe", a pseudonym for Norma McCorvey, a 21-year-old waitress from Texas who had been raped by three men after returning home from a carnival. She was pregnant as a consequence and vanted an abortion. Her case had been taken up by Sarah Weddington and Linda Coffee, two ambitious pro-choice lawyers who appealed to the US Supreme Court: Blackmun, who was only in his second year in the court, announced on June 22, 1973, a 7-2 ruling which invalidated the anti-abortion laws of 46 states.

Hours after the decision, hospitals in America were receiving calls from women asking where they could get an abortion. By the end of 1973 the number of abortions undertaken in America was 744.000; in 1975 the figure was one million.

Blackmun must have been a disappointment to President Richard Nixon. who appointed him to the Supreme Court in 1970. He was nominated in the belief that he was a conservative, a lifelong Republican and strict construc-tionist who would help his childhood friend, Chief Justice Warren Burger, to undo the liberal excesses of the Court under Earl Warren. Indeed, during his first two years on the bench, Blackmun voted with Burger on so many occasions that they became known as "the Minnesota twins" — both having grown up and gone to the same school in St Paul, Minnesota.

But then came Roe v Wade. Blackmun's judgments increasingly began to show tolerance of dissent, and a unconservative tendency to favour the underdog in American society. More and more often he could be found voting alongside Justices William Brennan and Thurgood Marshall until, after their retirement, he was recog-nised as the leading liberal in the Court Blackmun believed that the law was

not "a rigid animal or a rigid profession", but rather "a constant search for truth" and that justices of the Supreme Court should "grow constitutionally" during their terms. His willingness to reconsider his own



views was illustrated by his attitude towards non-traditional lifestyles. In 1971, in a dissenting opinion, he argued that the "absurd and immature antic" of wearing a jacket in court bearing the words "Fuck the Draft" was not constitutionally protected. And in 1974 he supported the prosecution of those who sewed the Stars and Stripes to the rear of their trousers. Yet in two later cases, in 1989 and 1990, Blackmun held that the First Amendment protected those who burnt the American flag during political protests.

When the Court ruled in 1977 that women on low incomes could not receive federal funding for abortions on the grounds that they could find the money elsewhere. Blackmun described the reasoning as "disingenuous and alarming, almost reminiscent of 'Let them eat cake". "There is another world out there," he went on, "the existence of which the Court, I suspect, either chooses to ignore or fears to

At the root of Harry Blackmun's judicial philosophy was his under-standing of the impact that Supreme Court decisions often had on those who inhabited what he called "the real world". He once said "every case involves people. If we forget the humanity of the litigants before us we are in trouble, no matter how great our supposed legal philosophy can be."

The son of devout Methodists,

Harold Andrew Blackmun won a partial scholarship to Harvard University where he graduated in 1929 in mathematics. For a time he toyed with the idea of a medical career, but eventually decided on the law and gained his LLB degree from Harvard Law School in 1932. Blackmun's subsequent career, as a

lawyer specialising in tax cases and civil litigation for a firm in Minneapolis, seemed unlikely to fit him for the legal heights. He left in 1950 to become resident counsel at the Mayo Clinic, and then, in 1959, became a judge at

the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. This may have had something to do with the fact that Warren Burger, with whom he had delivered newspapers at school, was by this time a judge on the Appeals Court in Washington.

Blackmun worked long hours and produced equally long and scholarly opinions. His criminal decisions were solidly conservative, and though there was a hint of liberalism in his rulings on civil rights, it was not enough to disturb President Nixon when he chose a replacement for the disgraced Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas in May 1969.

Blackmun was not Nixon's first choice, but after Clement Haynsworth and Harold Carswell had been rejected by the Senate on the grounds that the first had dubious business ties, the second was mediocre, and both were anti-black, Nixon needed a safe alternative. So Harry Blackmun won unanimous Senate confirmation and was duly sworn in as the Supreme Court's ninth justice on May 12, 1970, Blackmun would subsequently refer to himself as "Old Number Three".

It was shortly afterwards that Blackmun provided a clue to the career that was to follow. "I've been called a liberal and a conservative," he said. Labels are deceiving."

As Reagan and Bush aimed to establish a conservative majority in the Court during the 1980s, Blackmun seemed increasingly liberal by contrast, though he maintained that it was not he who had changed, but the Court. Shortly before his retirement in April 1994, he called for the forcible repatriation of Haitian refugees to cease, and announced that he was against the death penalty. A friend of President Clinton, Blackmun timed his retirement to allow Clinton to appoint a liberal successor. He was succeeded by Stephen Breyer.

On the abortion issue he did not

waver. As each challenge emerged over the years, and Roe v Wade seemed increasingly threatened under the Reagan and Bush Administrations. Blackmun grew increasingly passionate. In a dissenting opinion to the majority decision in the case of Webster v Reproductive Health Services in 1989, he concluded: "The women of this nation still retain the liberty to control their destinies. But the signs are evident and very ominous, and a chill wind blows."

Nevertheless, to date, his original ruling has not been overturned. though ironically, late last year Norma McCorvey - "Jane Roe" - announced that she had become a Roman Catholic, and now she speaks out against abortion. Harry Blackmun is survived by his

wife Dorothy, and three daughters.

RICHARD ALLEN

Richard Allen, painter and teacher, died on February 9 aged 66. He was born on February 8, 1933.

RICHARD ALLEN was best known as a decidedly rigorous systems artist, painting patterns made up of grids and bars and frequently confining his palette to black and white. or even white on white. In the circumstances it is perhaps not surprising that he was better known abroad than at home, though a contributory factor was his withdrawal from the London art scene, to live and work in Jersey, in 1977.

Born in Worcester, Allen initially intended to do something in agriculture, and to that end studied at Worcester College of Technology. But after doing his National Service in Korea he was bitten by the art bug, and a chance encounter encouraged him to transfer his studies to Worcester School of Art in 1955. In 1957 he went on to Bath Academy of Art. Corsham. where his contemporaries included Howard Hodgkin.

While studying there he became interested in the kind of free-form semi-abstraction then much in vogue, though his sympathies shifted slightly when, on a year-long art scholarship from the Italian Government, his imagination was captured by a Milan hoarding made up of re-used planks still bearing jumbled remnants of old posters.

On his return to England he made his first appearance before the public as a pop artist. The phase was shortlived, however, and was succeeded by an interest in Op Art and kinetic art, so by 1964 he was exhibiting alongside Brid-get Riley and Peter Sedgely in Op Art manifestations. He even joined the Match Shed co-operative organised by Ri-ley and Sedgely, and exhibited with the newly opened Angela Flowers Gallery in 1972, showing paintings based on moire

patterning. in 1971 he had joined Matrix, a group interested in exploring an even more systematic form of painting. This evolved into Systems, in whose work every detail was



Richard Allen in his studio during the 1970s

controlled by a system of construction previously arrived at Curiously - though Allen applied these ideas as precisely as anybody - he was plagued with self-doubt.

The Minimalist approach to art that became fashionable in the mid-1970s suited him better, and under its influence he became what he liked to call a "fundamental" painter. About 1975 he decided to remove colour altogether from his art, confining himself instead to grid patterns made with charcoal and cellulose acetate on canvas or wax and charcoal on

He remained true to this self-denying ordinance for

some 20 years, returning to partial colour only in the mid-1990s, when he began a series of "White Paintings" in oils, which are to be shown at Angela Flowers this April. Though it may seem from

this account that Allen was unduly influenced by whatever happened to be the avant garde fashion of the moment, his art was in fact remarkably consistent and independent in its development. It was simply that, as a modest man much given to self-questioning, he needed as much outside reassurance as possible.

Those he taught, in his many teaching and advisory capacities, found him remark-

ably undictatorial, with his eye much more on the spiritual values of values of art than on commercial knowhow.

His wife Evelyn, whom he married in 1961, came from Jersey, and when they moved to the island he played an active part in its artistic life. opening two galleries devoted to contemporary art and encouraging the establishment of a Jersey Arts Centre, as well as founding Exart, a design company ready to take on all sorts of commissions, including designing the signs for Jersey Zoo.

From Jersey he continued to work internationally, being called in regularly as a consultant by the Ruhr Regional Planning Authority and similar bodies in The Netherlands. Belgium, Hungary and even. occasionally, England.

in 1991 Alien and his wife decided to return to England and settled in Whitney-on-Wye. Shortly after their return, however, Evelyn was stricken with cancer, and she died in 1997. Soon after her death Allen himself was found to be suffering from motor neurone disease. His response to the diagnosis was to move to London, buy himself a computer and begin to use it in his art to design paintings which could be executed by others if he became physically incapable..

Last year he enjoyed a retrospective exhibition, which began at the University of Wales School of Art, Aberystwyth, and will be seen in Jersey later this year. He is survived by two daughters.

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LOCAL WARDENS IN ON THIS DAY AIR RAIDS

THE Home Office Air Raid Precautions Department yesterday issued a memoran dum, which has been sent to local authorities on the work to be performed by air raid wardens in the event of air attack (Stationery Office, price 2d), About 300,000 volunteers are to be recruited as wardens, whose duty will be to advise residents in certain areas on the officially recommended precautions against air raids, to assist in the distribution of civilian respirators, and, in the event of war, to play an active part in helping the public both during and after an air raid.

The memorandum explains the need for the organization of citizen volunteers, to perform a number of important duties in time of air attack, and thereby to augment and relieve the normal resources of the civil authorities for safeguarding the general public. The work which these volunteers will be asked to undertake will, in normal circumstances, be close to their homes or places of work, and will constitute an essential part of the air raid precautions services of local authorities.

It is proposed that every borough and district, singly or in co-operation with its

March 5, 1937

Air raid wardens were to play a very

important part in ensuring the salety of civilians during the Second World War.

neighbours, and in consultation with the police, should arrange for the organization and training of a body of air raid wardens. It may be possible in forming local schemes to utilize the organization of some existing body or association. An offer by the British Legion to place its organization at the service of local authorities for this purpose has been accepted: but this acceptance does not prevent local authorities obtaining their wardens from other sources or forming their organization in some different way. The memorandum states that, though wardens should be men, there is no intrinsic reason why women should not perform the duties, particularly in residential districts, where nearly all the men are away at work throughout the day.

Wardens, it is added, will operate from fixed posts, each responsible for a defined group of streets or "sectors", and each manned during times of air raids by two or perhaps three wardens. Posts will be established in all parts of the area — one post to every 500 inhabitants in residential districts and one post to every quarter of a mile in industrial and husiness areas. Where necessary each post will be provided with two or even three reliefs. The proposals indicate a requirement of approximately 300,000 for the whole country, including 70,000 to 80,000 for Greater London, and 20,000 for Scotland.

Air-raid wardens, it is advised, should be responsible men, over 30 years of age, not enrolled in the Territorial Forces or Auxiliary Air Force or liable to recall as Reservists to the defence forces, police or fire brigades. They should be of good character, level-headed, and free from obvious physical or temperamental disability. They will be trained to have a knowledge of the air-raid precautions organization, the anti-gas precautions, and the scheme for distributing respirators in their sectors. They will be taught how to fit civilian respirators, how to recognize gas bombs and detect the presence of gas. This will mean full anti-gas training, preferably by an instructor who has qualified at the Civilian Anti-Gas

THE TIMES TODAY

Protest to US in banana trade war

Britain's relations with the United States were joited last night as a long-running dispute over banana imports to Europe flared into a trade war.

The American Ambassador to London was summoned to the Department of Trade and Industry to face a fierce protest over Washington's action in imposing swingeing new duties on £350 million worth of European goods, including the Scottish cashmere industry...

Uganda pledges justice for victims

Holding out death notes placed on the chests of two victims of Monday's slaughter of tourists in south-west Uganda, an army colonel vowed that his men would hunt down and kill the Rwandan rebels responsible. "It will not be a day; it will not be a week - but we will get them".....Pages L, 16, 17

Royal day out

Prince Philip landed the plum part when he and the Queen spent a day touring London's theatreland vesterday...Page I

GM fears on water

The water industry is demanding a moratorium on the commercial planting of genetically modified crops amid fears that the chemicals used on them may heavily pollute rivers, lakes, and reser-

Foster pair charged

A couple who were at the centre of a nationwide hunt after they disappeared for four months with their foster daughters are to be charged with abduction, police

'Imposter wife' claim A husband turned cold against

his wife because he believes she has been replaced by an impostor, a court heard. Alan Davies is convinced that his real wife died in a car crash.. Premium on students

Universities will receive a 5 per

cent "premium" for every student they recruit from poor areas, to try to ensure that an extra 45,000 places go to groups under-represented on campuses......Page 8

Dome super sale

The 90st body in the Millennium Dome is to be the prize lot in a the end of 2000 ...

Vanessa staff sacked The BBC has sacked three mem-

bers of staff from The Vanessa Show over allegations that fake guests appeared on the pro-Page II

Westminster fee plan Plans to charge tourists £6.50 to visit the Palace of Westminster over summer could be blocked by the House of Lords Page 12

US pilot acquitted

Italians reacted with anger to the acquittal of a US Marine pilot on all charges of reckless flying when his jet sheared a gondola cable above an Italian ski resort, killing 20 peoplePage 13

Iraq lures pilots

traqi fighter pilots are trying to lure British and American aircraft over hidden surface-to-air missile sites as part of daily confrontations over Iraq Page 14

Iran backs reform

Reformers supporting President Khatami of Iran appear set for victory in the first ever local elections which have highlighted the waning influence of his hardline oppo-

Tiananmen petition

Ten years after the violent suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square, relatives and friends of those killed or injured have petitsale of the exhibition's contents at tioned the National People's Con-.. Page 9 gress to apologise ...

Monica publicity train leads to Essex

When Monica Lewinsky began her affair with President Clinton, it is unlikely that she saw it ending with a trip to the Lakeside shopping centre in Essex. The shopping mecca is. however, where she will be at 11.30am next Saturday, signing copies of Andrew Morton's book and fulfilling her requirement of the modern book deal — the publicity tour......



The Cornish piper Merv Davey prepares to lead today's St Piran's day parade over the dunes at Perranporth to St Piran's oratory

Rates held: The European Central Bank held its key interest rate unchanged at 3 per cent, ignoring pressure from Germany to cut the cost of borrowing in countries within insurance payout; Royal and Sun Alliance is returning £750 million

in cash to investors despite suffer-

ing a 39 per cent fall in operating

Page 27

Page 30

Rolls-Royce boom: Rolls-Royce ended the year with a £10.4 billion order book, and work worth £2.2 billion in the pipeline.......Page 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 index rose 53.1 to 6101.4. The pound fell 1.00 cent to \$1.6077 and rose 0.13p against the euro to 67.35p. The sterling index rose to 1026 from

TOMORROW IN

The Saturday Times

Footbalk Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, is expected to be away from the game for several weeks after suffering a heart attack before the game against Sheffield Wednesday... Motor racing: Damon Hill was will-

ing to bury his hatchet to press the claims of his adversary, Michael Schumacher, as this year's Formula One world champion.....Page 52 Rugby union: Richmond were meeting to decide whether the club should apply to go into administration after Ashley Levett reduced his investment.

Athletics: Britain's most prestigious meeting has been downgraded to third-division status by the International Amateur Athletic Feder-

Richard Morrison: The "chumbing down" issue is the chic cultural chatter of our day. Which is presumably why ISO of our finest thinkers are going to spend a whole weekend discussing it...... Page 35 Goethe celebrated: The 250th anni-

Pride of the valleys: Stereophonics may be making it big in America, but the group remain rooted in their native Glamorgan___Page 36 Kuta comeback: Written off last year, Kula Shaker - led by Hayley Mills's son, Crispian — have returned with a strong new albumcalled Peasants, Pigs and Astro-

GOWMP,

GOWMP, GOWMP.

versary of the German writer's

birth is marked with a weekend of

concerts at the South Bank in Lon-

Loose talk: Drawstring pants are back. And if you want to avoid looking like a puppet, let them hangPage 20 around your navel....

in crisis. As of Thanksgiving, I've discovered a lifetime of betrayal from my husband, and I'm divorcing him." Lynn Redgrave talks to Jamie Lawrence.

Joe Joseph: "Robin Cook, Jack Straw, Frank Dobson, Alastair Campbell ... names that have the power to inspire all of us to reassess our lives and to wonder if maybe it isn't time to emigrate".......Page 21

Damage limitation: Scotland Yard's

Teatime: More newscasters are being turned into stars in the battle for teatime ratings....

Team effort: The couple hired to raise standards in one of the UK's worst state schools _____Page 42

It is regrettable that Uganda should be at the receiving end of this dastardly act but the incident gives our neighbouring state an idea of what Kenya's image has been subjected to virtually with each ambush in which tourists have been injured and robbed. The Daily Nation, Kenya.

Betrayed: "As a matter of fact I am

press officers are breathing a sigh of relief.

Rlair's banana skin Tony Blair greatly admires the

... Pages 50, 51

Preview: Dawn Prench stars in Murder Most Horrid (BBC2, 9pm) Review: Paul Hoggart on the Moni-

ca interview...

free-trading, modernising socialism of the Dutch. Had his ministers listened to The Netherlands last year, Scotland's cashmere industry would not now be facing ruin.

Senator Clinton

The First Lady has hinted that she may seek election in the Senate. It is the Republicans who would most ___ Page 23 like her to declare...

Old curiosity shop Roll up, roll up. Tickets for London's longest-running show. The Palace of Westminster is throwing open its doors...

MATTHEW PARRIS

Quite possibly Mr Byers had never said "banana" in his life. Banana splits are not the kind of pudding this quiet, neat, trim-suited man would order ...

SIMON JENKINS

This week, as we are all aware, a group of non-Europeans killed a group of Britons in a most brutal fashion. Meanwhile a group of Britons have killed non-Europeans in a most brutal fashion. That story has been ignored..... Page 22

MARY ANN SIEGHART The onus is on opponents of EMU

to boost people's confidence that Britain can thrive in the Union outside the eurozone...

PHILIP HOWARD

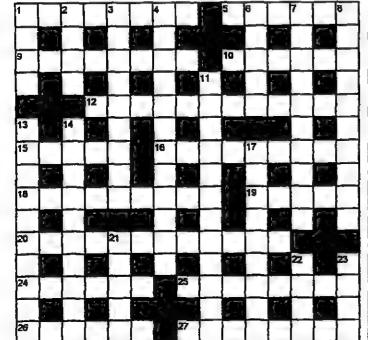
Now is the time for Asterix and Obelix to visit euroland. Those anarchix cartoon Gauls have deconstructed and taken the pix out of most other human pomposities in their struggles with J. Caesar and his Treaty of Rome Page 2

Harry Blackmun, former US Supreme Court Justice; Captain Dayid Goodwin, Taranto veteran; Richard Allen, painter........... Page 25

EU/US banana wars; cost of care for the elderly, advice for travellers; News at Ten; breastfeeding probkems; scientists' fight against disease; Dr Jenner's cow...... Page 23

4.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,043



- ACROSS I Getting rid of bribes flung
- back in face (8). 5 Doctrinaire person gets chap in a temper (6).
- 9 Poet penning English sketch in outline (3). 10 Incomplete description after motorway accident (6).
- 12 Having no first-hand experience? (12).
- 15 Name on end of title deed to make legal (5).
- 16 I can get queen ant on the move (9).
- 18 Fish caught in Scottish one. maybe (9).
- 19 Fruit that is old and turning bad (5). 20 Talking of a time during
- change-over (12).

Solution to Puzzle No 21,042

- 24 Lament bird that's extinct in Scots upland (6). 25 He sings but one musical
- sound (8).
 26 Avoid being sweet with opponents at bridge (6).

 27 Doctor's replacement joining explorer in London area (4.4).
- I Swindle mum. making money (4). Want to have bishop's authori-
- ty over king (4). Defeat ended game (9). 4 One with an end in sight? (12). 6 Out in Lake Victoria (5). Unconventional art coach, I'm
- not using colours (10). Old Times composer, perhaps, a model to one like me? (10).
- II Stewed pear yet in tin can
- 13 Evil, bad pieces fabricated about Liberal (10). A nominal inheritance (10). OPEC soon compromise, initially dropping 50% through-

out to make savings (9)-

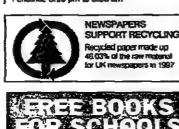
- 21 Rub out Times puzzle finally (5). 22 State area covered by island
- 23 Decorate supporter of crew

Times Two Crossword, page 52

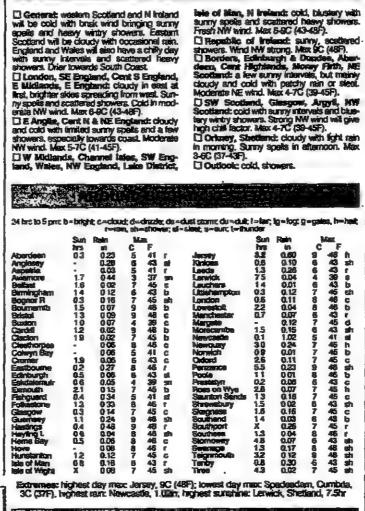
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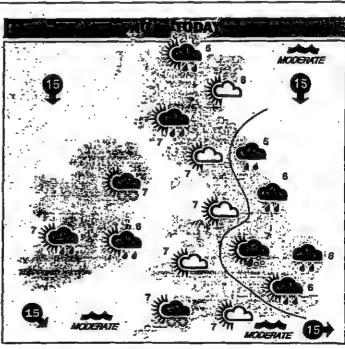
Last quarter March 100 London 5, 46 pm to 6,35 em Bristol 5,57 pm to 6,46 em Edmburgh 5,55 pm to 6,53 em Manchester 5,53 pm to 6,46 pm Penzance 6,10 pm to 6,56 em



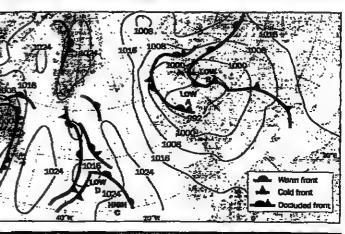




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FEITAY MARCH 5 M

Curiosity shop

SIMON JENKINS

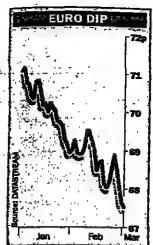
Euro hits new lows as bank spurns Lafontaine's plea for rate cut

ECB refuses to bail out Bonn

tively high recent growth of

M3 money supply and the

weakness of the euro against



BY SAEED SHAR

THE European Central Bank refused to come to the aid of a sharply slowing German econ-omy yesterday by leaving its key interest rate on hold at 3

Germantigures showed its economy shrinking in the fourth quarter of last year. The Federal Statistics Office of Europe's largest economy yesterday reported that the country's gross domestic prod-uct contracted by 0.4 per cent in the final quarter of 1998, compared with the previous quarter, as exports weakened. For the year as a whole, the German economy grew 2.8 per

economist at Bear Stearns International, said: "Germany is half way to recession. It could easily be tipped over the edge." Two consecutive quarters of negative growth represent a

Mr Barrow said that the yearly figure for 1998 was boosted by a "sparkling" first Ahead of the ECB meeting

Oskar Lafontaine, Germany's finance minister, yesterday repeated his pleas for an interest rate cut to help to pull his country away from high unemployment and the dangers of a deflationary spiral. German inflation stood at just 0.2 per

with a year earlier. Herr Lafonainst a rate cut. taine does not accept the The euro sank to new lows ECB's argument that interest against both the pound and

rates are already low enough. In an interview published yes-terday he said: "Inflation in drifting below \$1.08 and closing at 67.35p against sterling. Germany has dropped Europe is at an all-time low. With this situation long-term broad hints that if the ECB is interest rates aren't low but not willing to help to boost deare around 3.5 per cent higher mand by cutting interest rate, than gross domestic product it might resort to increasing government spending. In an attempt to boost demand, the The ECB, however, views Germany's unemployment German Government has encouraged generous wage settle-ments, which have come in problem as a structural issue and believes that interest rate cuts would not help. The rela-

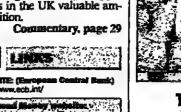
over recent weeks at some 3.5 per cent to 4.0 per cent. After yesterday's interest rate decision, Wim Duisen"Wage developments are a matter of concern for the ECB. so would be the loosening of fiscal policy or a policy not in accordance with the Stability

He said that the outlook for price stability was unchanged, despite the risks to economic growth, and claimed that monetary policy was making its contribution to growth in the euro zone.

The French economy grew by 0.7 per cent in the last quar-ter of 1998 and Spain by 0.8 per cent. Only Italy is nursing tion as Germany with fourth quarter GDP, due out next

By contrast, the economy in ireland grew by as much as 8 per cent last year.

The sharp differences in economic conditions across Europe was one of the major arguments against the mill give the single currency's opponents in the UK valuable am-



shoot

Business

Today

Not a word from our sponsor 29

Ubright reacts well quity prices:

South African exodus to London may be an exodus too far

TOMOON MONEY STERLING

NORTH SEA OIL

Srent15-day(May). \$11.75 (\$11.45) tary engines ordered by Saudi \$287.85 S288 65

The order book totalled £10.4 billion at the end of the

Royal & Sun under fire over dividend

been better.

ROYAL & SunAlliance came under fire yesterday after the composite insurer revealed plans to return £750 million of surplus capital to shareholders, despite suffering a 39 per cent fall in profits last year.

RSA is to pay a of 48p as well as a final dividend of 15.20. This helped pact of disappoint-ing annual results and helped RSA shares to recover 5 per cent to 587p. A year ago they were 8080.

to soften the im-Bob Mendelsohn, chief execu ive, said RSA had finally completed us reorganisation after the troubled

merger of Royal Sun Alliance three now determined to use shareholders capital more

cial review RSA had concluded that it could reduce its capital base by about 10 per cent. A special dividend of £750 milion would be paid, he said, bringing the total amount that the company had returned to shareholders in the past 12 months to EL25 billion.

As part of the special payment RSA is proposing to reduce the number of its shares with a consolidation which will see investors receive ten new shares for every 11 ordi nary shares in RSA they hold. However, Tim Young, insur-

ince analyst at Teather & Greenwood, attacked the plan, saying RSA was effectively mounting a share buyback on a 9 per cent discount. "The combination of the 48p special dividend and the share consolidation means RSA will pay 527p for shares currently worth more than 580p. It's a share buyback at a discounted price. They'll pay £750 million paper worth more than



company remained the same. PAYBACK TIME stamped from £988 million to £602 milsharp rise in almost halved worldwide profits from general insurance business to £352 milion. Intense pressine in the investment and pensions marketplace meanwhile kept life insurance operating prof its flat at £230 million despite a 6 per cent rise in rates during the year. Mendelsohn said he was unhappy with the results but said ur-

prove the situation. Yesterday RSA announced the sale of its US life business to Swiss Re for



Sir Ralph Robins, left, chairman, and John Rose want to expand maintenance operations

Rolls-Royce boosted by demand for civil aircraft

BUOYANT demand for civil aircraft helped Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine maker, to report an 18 per cent rise in pretax profits yesterday. The company reiterated that

it is gunning for another doubledigit profit increase this year, de-spite an anticipated slowdown in the growth of orders as the ecrospace market cools. Rolls delivered about 900 en-

gines in 1998. Profits were a record £325 million before tax. Turnover rose from £4.35 billion to £4.5 billion.

About 35 per cent of sales came from the aftermarket the spare parts and support work that are the group's most profitable activities, although Rolls declines to disclose how much they actually make.

John Rose, chief executive, said the group wanted to expand further its maintenance operations. More joint ventures with the engine overhaul departments of airlines will be sought, following the formation of a repair company with American Airlines.

Mr Rose said Rolls would continue to collaborate with its two largest competitors, Pratt & Whitney and General Elertric, on specific projects but stated that a merger was very unlikely, despite the trend for mega-mergers in the aero-space industry in general. He said engine manufacture had already been rationalised to just three global businesses.

The profits include £40 milbion banked after the sale to BMW of the right to use the Rolls-Royce name on cars. Sir Ralph Robins, chairman of the aero-engine maker, played a key role in eventually securing the Rolls-Royce motor car brand for BMW, a partner on an aircraft engine project. Mr Rose said the only expo-

sure the group has to the al-Yamamah arms-for-oil deal with Saudi Arabia is through the supply of spare parts. The by British Acrospace, has been the subject of speculation be-cause of falling oil prices. The last Rolls-Royce mili-

Arabia have been delivered. A writ issued against Rolls by an intermediary on the al-Yamamah programme is likely to remain dormant, the company said yesterday.

year, with £2.2 billion in the pipeline. Orders from Asia Pacific accounted for 13 per cent of the £12.6 billion total. Underlying earnings per share were 16.91p (15.16p). A fi-

nal dividend of 4.1p per share has been declared, making 6.55p for the year, an 11 per cent increase on 1997. The shares, which have risen from 186p last September, closed at 272%p, down from 275p.

Commentary, page 29

BM signs Dell deal Funds shy of equities

BY ADAM JONES

£240 million

IBM and Dell have signed a \$16 billion (£10 billion) deal that will see Dell use IBM's technology in its computer hardware, emphasising that even the biggest names in the industry are now reluctant to go it alone.

The pair believe that their pact is the largest yet struck in the information technology sector, which is undergoing rapid consolidation

Dell will initially buy disk drives, flat panel displays,

ng equipment from IBM, in a tacit admission that IBM's technology is more advanced. The supply arrangement, which may be extended to other technologies, will not stop either side dealing with

Dell is already one of IBM's biggest customers. The \$16 billion will flow through to IBM over seven years. The pair will also collaborate on developing new products and there will also be patent cross-licensing between them. IBM's component supply business has been growing by 44 per cent a year since it was formed in 1993. It brought in sales of \$6.6 billion last year. There had been speculation that the deal would involve IBM's personal compu-ter business, but this is not the

Both IBM and Dell shares rose after the deal was announced in the US yesterday. Dell shares were up almost \$2.50 to \$83.50 in late-morning Nasdaq trading. On the New York Stock Exchange, IBM shares traded at \$175, up \$8.25. By CAROLINE MERRELL

PENSION funds called the top of the market last year and withdrew more than £10 billion from the London stockmarket last year. But their failure to reinvest means that many funds are now holding less than half their total assets in UK equities, against an average 58 per cent of their holdings earlier this decade.

According to Peter Warrington, a director of WM. the pensions consultant which collated the figures, pension

funds sold UK stock because they believed that share prices

were too high.
"They took the view that the stock market was overvalued," he said.

Pension funds produced average returns of 14 per cent during the year, equivalent to a real return after inflation of

Returns on the UK equity proportion of pension funds, however, were 12 per cent, 2 per cent lower than the index. Pension funds underperformed the UK index because they were underweight in tele coms stocks and overexposed to oil exploration stocks, which fell by 61 per cent last year.

The best returns were shown by equity investments in Europe, which returned 30 per cent, and North America, where the return was 24 per cent. Over £6 billion of new money was invested in UK bonds during the year, while the return achieved was more than 20 per cent — only the second year in the past ten that UK bonds provided a better re-

turn than UK equities.

Mirror

outlines strategy

THE Mirror Group yesterday spelt out its manifesto for inde-pendence as rival bidders for the group face months of in-vestigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (Raymond Snoddy writes).

As Mirror announced a 9 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £100 million before exceptionals, John Allwood, the new chief executive, said: We are not going to sit around like turkeys waiting

Mr Allwood said Mirror will concentrate on newspaper and magazine publishing. That means the sale of its 20 per cent stake in the Scottish Media Group, which could bring in more than £100 million, an additional £40 million from the sale of its former Central London headquarters and up to £15 million of savings from scrapping the relaunch of The Sporting Life. The MMC is investigating approaches from two local paper groups, Trinity and Re-gional Independent Media.

Sleep your way to the top.

Dine before you fly at US Club World Lounges. Sleep non-stop and arrive in better shape for business.

BRITISH AIRWAYS The world's favourite airline

Biocompatibles

extends warrants

BIOCOMPATIBLES INTERNATIONAL, the medical coat-

ings company that must raise more money by the end of the year, is optimistically extending the exercise date of warrants

that could bring in £20 million. The warrants, which were

due to expire at the end of April. are exercisable at 180p and

will be worthless unless shares in Biocompatibles climb at

least £1 higher than their current 82½p. Biocompanibles, once valued at £1 billion but now capitalised at less than £80 mil-

lion, intends to extend the warrants until December, but is

also considering raising money by an issue of debt.

The company yesterday reported increased 1998 losses of f43.7 million (f28.1 million), but Crispin Simon, chief executive, said: "We are in the process of rehabilitation. We can

make a lot of progress in rebuilding credibility." The focus is

on the rising sales in coated contact lenses and blood vessel

supports, which last year rose by 57 per cent to £9.5 million.

THE US Senate Banking Committee voted to support a Bill to modernise the banking industry that Democrats said would draw a veto from President Clinton. The bill was cham-

pioned by Phil Gramm, the committee chairman. It is one of a long series of efforts to overhaul Depression-era banking.

laws by breaking down barriers between banks, insurance companies and brokerages. Mr Clinton, who said on Wednesday he would veto the Bill, objects to what is seen as a weakening of requirements for banks to lend in poor areas.

UK CONSUMERS will next week be offered free Internet ac-

Free Internet access

US Bill approved

PowerGen warns of £100m hit

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL

POWERGEN gave warning yesterday that profits would be cut by at least £100 million this year because of poor returns in the electricity market and the forced sales of power stations. The generator said £60

million would come off profits when it disposes of two power stations and that it had taken a £40 million knock in January and February from reduced demand for electricity and greater competition. There was also a £40 million reduction in December in power trading. Some of the problem stems from a reduction in payments for keeping power stations available. This will

reformed PowerGen plunged to a £245 million loss for the nine months to December 31 after taking a £537 million charge for renegotiating expensive gas contracts. The City had expected a loss of £215 million, Pre-tax profits before exceptional charges fell 22 per cent to 292 million, compared with the previous nine

worsen when the market is

Earnings per share before exceptionals fell from 44.3p to 38.Sp. The final dividend. payable on May 13, was set at 14.1p making a total of 24.1p, an 11 per cent increase on a full-year basis.

City does not understand us, says Vickers chief

By Paul Armstrong

VICKERS, the marine engineer and tank manufacturer. yesterday accused the stock market of failing to understand its desence division. which provided almost 40 per cent of the company's revenues last year.

Paul Buysse, chief executive, said City analysts and investors did not appreciate the strength of the industry to the same extent as their counterparts in France, Germany and

"There is a negative perception here that surprised me," said M Buysse, a Belgian who took the top job at Vickers last

Analysts say Vickers's de-fence division is largely to blame for the slump in the company's share price from 236p in June to yesterday's price of 148p, down 1p on the

The value of outstanding defence contracts on Vickers's books has failen to about £500 million from £800 million a year ago, mainly because of or-ders for the Challenger 2 tank being filled.

M Buysse said the division's best hope of winning a major contract rested with the Greek Government, which is expected to call tenders for a £1.5 billion-plus order within weeks. Vickers said it is also pursuing several UK defence contracts worth up to £100 million each.



Paul Buysse said analysts and investors in Britain did not appreciate the strength of the defence industry

Vickers announced yesterday that its pre-tax profit for 1998 leapt to £157 million from £19.4 million in 1997 after booking profits of £162 million on the sale of several businesses, including Rolls-Royce Motor

Cars. Operating profit before exceptionals was £42.1 million. down from £75.8 million previ-ously, on the back of a 25 per cent fall in turnover to £892.5 million. On a continuing operations basis, however, turno-

ver was up 2.6 per cent at £692

A final dividend of 4.5p was declared, taking the full-year payout to an unchanged 7.2p. M Buysse said a strong order book would ensure an "ex-

cellent" year for Vickers's ma-rine division, which provided 22 per cent of last year's turnover, though the division's earnings from the offshore oil industry would dip because of the weak oil price.

cess with free local calls for the first time, as part of a trial service. The service, both a marketing exercise and a test of public reaction to such an offer, will be launched by The X-Stream Network, the private Canadian company that launched a free Internet access service in the UK 12 months ago and promoted Dixons, the electrical retail group, to launch its own free access service. Freeserve. X-Stream said the free service would

Prague losses mount

be available on March 8 only, between 6pm and midnight.

LOSSES at Prague Breweries, in which Bass has a control-ling interest, quadrupled last year from almost £4 million to about £16 million as the Czech recession and brewery closures took their toll. Turnover was flat at just over £400 million, while volumes suffered a 6 per cent decline. The company had planned to raise funds through a rights issue. However, the minority shareholders have blocked the move and set up an action group to protect their interests. The group described Bass's management performance as "unacceptable".

Sanderson set to spend

SANDERSON BRAMALL said it has at least £20 million to buy rival car dealers and is seeking suitable ones in the Midlands and Yorkshire. The group, which last year paid £37 million for Charles Sidney, mainly sells Ford cars, but said that despite the US manufacturer's decision to buy Ford dealerships, it has had no approach. Its shares rose 174p to 2034p, a seven-month high, as it unveiled 1998 pre-tax profits of £17.1 million, up from £15.6 million. Headline earnings per share were 31.7p (27.8p). A 4.23p final dividend makes 6.35p (5.52p).

Glycosciences database

OXFORD GLYCOSCIENCES will shortly launch the first of three databases of its protein expertise that it is developing with Incyte Pharmaceuticals, the American company that already earns substantial revenues from leading drug groups. Glycosciences is also working with Pfizer to identify proteins to measure the onset and progression of Alzheimer's disease. lion). Increased research spending of £13.2 million led to increased annual losses of £8.7 million (£7.6 million).

Dorman appointed

BT and AT&T have appointed David Dorman, former chief executive of Pacific Bell, the US telecoms company, to run their new \$10 billion (£6 billion) international joint venture. Mr Dorman, 45, is currently chairman and chief executive of PointCast, the company that provides broadcast news on the Internet. It is the combination of telecommunications and Internet experience that has won him one of the top jobs in international telecommunications. The new venture will include all the international operations of BT and AT&T.

MFI sees sales slump

MFI FURNITURE yesterday revealed the extent of the trading problems that precipitated the departure of John Randall as chief executive last week. Sales at UK stores were down 20 per cent on last year in the four months to March 1. This was partly due to the company moving away from sales of small household goods. But sales of continuing products, mainly kitchens and bedrooms, were also down a steep 12.5 per cent in the same period. Total sales were down 13 per cent in the period, with total continuing product sales down 6 per cent.

Vehicle numbers fall

COMMERCIAL vehicle (CV) registrations in February fell 43.6 per cent to 12,462, the Society of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) said yesterday. Every sector of the CV industry was down year-on-year. Registrations of light 4x4 utility vehicles fell 59.4 per cent to just 480. CV registrations so far this year are 7.4 per cent length for the forther for the feature. are 27.4 per cent lower than for the first two months of last year. The SMMT blamed the March registration plate change and uncertainty over vehicle excise duty ahead of next week's Budget.

Eurostar cuts passenger aim

By Arthur Leathley, transport correspondent

EUROSTAR, the international train service, has given up its "unrealistic" target of increasing passenger numbers beyond ten million a year after seeing operating losses still running at £90 million.

New management brought in last year to rescue the lossmaking service has formally abandoned the founder company's original growth forecasts and is concentrating instead on revenue increases. Although Eurostar cut oper-

ating losses last year by £40 million from the £130 million of 1997, it said that heavy discounting of tickets will be more limited in future. Howev-, management is opomisoc of breaking even by 2005.

Eurostar passengers in-

lion last year, and revenues rose by 29 per cent to £350 million. The company, which has been separated from the Channel Tunnel rail link consorti-

um, and is now run by National Express and British Airways, said that the revenue rise came on the back of significant growth in business traffic, especially on the London-Brussels route.

The company says that it is now reaching a yield per pas-senger of £62, well up on the £39 low in 1997, when prices were heavily discounted. Hamish Taylor, Eurostar

managing director, said: "The passenger targets that had been set were totally unrealis tic and it has been demoralising to staff to see that we are nowhere near those levels."

BAA agrees Eurotunnel shops deal

By CARL MORTISHED

BAA has taken up the challenge to turn the Eurotunnel terminuses at Dover and Calais into airport-style shopping malls. The owner of Heathrow and Gatwick has agreed a contract worth about £100 million per year to take over the management of Eurotunnel's existing shops and extend the retailing space.

BAA will operate the retail facilities through World Duty Free on a profit sharing basis with Eurotunnel. Brian Collie, BAA's retail director, said the UK and

French terminal shops would generate about £100 million of revenue, assuming that dutytree retaili as planned, on June 30. Euroturnel generates about £190 million a year from its shops.

Pressure on oil explorers

By Carl Mortished, international business editor

BRITAIN'S struggling independent oil explorers will come under greater pressure to merge with rivals or sell out when the Oil Exploration & Production sector is abolished from the FTSE stock market in-

FTSE International plans to fold the oil explorers into an enlarged oil sector where the sev-en British independents will be dwarfed by two multina-tionals, BP Amoco and Shell Transport & Trading. The seven E&P stocks are together worth just over & billion, compared with a combined value of £116 billion for BP Amoco

creasingly difficult for E&P stocks to attract investor interest. Caroline Cook, analyst at BT Alex Brown, said: "With no stocks in the FTSE 100 index. interest in the upstream looks set to wane."

Companies such as Lasmo and Enterprise Oil, currently in merger talks, may come under pressure to pay more dividends. FTSE International said the sector was too small to justify its continued existence. The change is part of a radi-cal overhaul to bring the FTSE into line with pan-European

The All-share index has changed almost beyond recognition over the past two decades. In 1978, it boasted sectors such as Toys and Games. א ששממנונוני chase, Mining Finance, Discount Houses and Overseas

Grocery bills to increase

By Sarah Cunningham

SUPERMARKET customers can expect to see their bills continue to rise despite the latest price war after evidence emerged that manufacturers of branded goods have been raising their prices.

Archie Norman, chairman of Asda; said yesterday that certain manufactuers have begun pushing up prices by be-tween 5 and 8 per cent over the past three months. Lever Brothers, the producers of Persil washing powder, said it is introducing rises averaging 3.2 per cent, its first price increases in a year.

One food retailing analyst said he expects prices to begin seasonal food inflation and the manufacturers price rises to take into account."

Swiss Federal Rallways SBB Beal Estate Management

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The railway stations of the SBB are not only the hubs for the users of public transport. Also outside the statutory business hours of shops, a varied range of commodity and service offers is at the disposal of travellers and passers-by. Not least of them are the automatic photo machines.

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Automatic photo machines in SBB Stations

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Swiss Federal Railways SBB Real Estate Management Postal Box CH-3052 Zollikofen/Switzerland

Telefon (+41) 512 - 20 37 04 Telefax (+41) 512 - 20 32 95 E-Mail beat-gaudenz.schwarz@sbb.ch

Arnault offers deal to Gucci

By Fraser Nelson

BERNARD ARNAULT, chairman of LVMH, has offered to call a truce with rival Gucci. M Arnault, who has 34.4 per cent of Gucci, has offered not to buy any more shares if it allows an LVMH-nominated director to join its supervisory board.

Gucci. however, said LVMH had failed to allay its fears that M Arnault could still take control of the company without paying for a full takeover. The negotiations come after

M Arnault tried to sue Gucci for issuing new shares which have neutralised any voting powers his stake could command. On Wednesday, an Amsterdam court told the two they should try to negotiate. It froze M Amault's voting rights and those of Gucci's new shares, asking them to return on April 22 if nothing is agreed.

EXCHANGE RATES

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travel-ier's cheques. Rates as at close of trad-

12.43 288.23 9.70

Knives are out over dinner

SAATCHI & SAATCHI, formerly the advertising agency of choice for Mrs Thatcher's administration, has found it-self embroiled in a scandal that threatens the stability of the New Zealand Government (writes Jason Nissé):

On August 31 last year Kevin Roberts, chief executive



of the millennium? Recel the arguments in tomorrow's

Business if e

with Jenny Shipley, the coun-try's Prime Minister. The two met the next day. and a few weeks later the New Zealand tourist board won a massive increase in its budget

New Zealand and had dinner

at a time when most other public services were facing cuts. Most of this budget increase is being devoted to a NZ\$30 million (about £10 million) ad-

vertising campaign, run by Saatchi & Saatchi. Mrs Shipley has faced calls for her resignation in the New Zealand Parliament over what is being called "Dinnergate". The country's equivalent of the

National Audit Office has launched an investigation. Mr Roberts and Mrs Shipley have denied there were links between the dinner and the funding increase. They say they are old friends from when Mr Rob-

erts lived in New Zealand.

The Corporate Bond PEP

Source LOBA 108 02 500. The running yield of the Faced Interest Tries was 6 128 14.7% redemption wield as at it February 1000 Ped performance is not necessify a gode to future performance is not necessify a gode to future performance is not necessify a gode to future performance in the tapetal and atomic waters may not got lack the amount of mosted. All compensions of cost apply to PEFs investing whethy in that Triest. The 2001 figurests are three currently applicable and are subject to stating charge. They water of the relief will depend on war individual occusionances fill women details are stallated on request legal of General (three) Interest for nequest legal of General (three) Interest Personal Integral Occur. It Queen Victoria Service London FOM TO Fort. Representative only of the legal of General mark imp group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Involution FOM TO for the purposes of reconstructioning actions on an seeing life assurance and investment products learning legal of General's name a member of ACTIF Investors should be assure that unifies each in a Deposit Account the capatil value of investments in Fixed Interest Trusts in not guaranteed. The Government less amounteed that contributions can only be made to 1970 with April 1998 Form that class a new Las printeged savings which, the Individual Savings Account (1941 will be available.

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See Company Sir Iring belm of English six year, dem-the spreadon to bank by Ser 11 Holkdown ed a fall in deal of profits from (1997).

in appointed

Today the Dome will echo with joyful celebrations. Fanfates will sound and lew sponsors will be revealed. And now, not a word from our sponsor will be revealed. new sponsors will be revealed. Sceptics will be assured that the money is veritably pouring down the Thames to Greenwich and that the Dome's demands on the public purse will not exceed the original hadoot. Mr. Plainte. original budget. Mr Blair's man on the case, his old friend Lord Falconer of Thoroton, has declared categorically that the tar-get of £150 million in commercial

AT THE STATE MARCH IN

ENSURESS BOUNDUP

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sponsorship will be reached But, when it comes to negotiat-mg sponsorship deals, the New Millermium Experience Company has not been in the strongest of positions. In fact, it has become increasingly desperate, a fact not wasted on the commercial organisations on the other side of the negotiating table. They are not all buying their place in the Dome publicity with hard cash

The Comptroller and Auditor General, Sir John Bourn, has al-ready voiced his doubts over whether the Dome's sums will add up. An analysis of the sponsorship arrangements would be unlikely to provide him with com-fort. For the figures that are being broadcast do not all repre-sent new money destined for get-ting the Dome up and running. Much of the apparently pledged funds are headed for promotion-al campaigns up and down the country, which may not be so far removed from the sort of promoremoved from the sort of promotional efforts that the organisations regularly undertake.

The Dome accounts do allow £50 million for Dome-related mil-

lennium projects around the country. Maybe that money was always destined to come off the £150 million sponsorship target. But that would leave at least twothirds of the sponsorship money heading towards Greenwich and that does not seem to be the case.

There is a degree of coyness on the subject which has prompted John Redwood, the Opposition spokesman on Trade and Industry, to table some probing questions. Among them, he might like to ask why Stansted is to be the millerning attentions. the millennium airport rather than the one down in Docklands. Could it be that BAA had determined to spend £12 million on the airport anyhow? Well, now that money is part of the £6 million proclaimed as BAA sponsor-ship. In fact, just £3 million is go-ing to the Dome: the remaining £1.8 million will sponsor the Millennium Youth Games.

Marks & Spencer is a £12 million sponsor. That breaks down into just £6 million for Green-wich and £6 million for the Chil-dren's Promise project, a worthy fundraising effort but not one that will fund the Dome, British Aerospace is another £6 million sponsor, which is only committing £3 million to Greenwich.



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

The companies are not to be blamed for squeezing the best possible deals out of the organisers. They have decided, or been persuaded, in some cases even by Mr Blair himself, that they should back the big project. But they are being careful with their cash. Does advertising in the Dome guide count as sponsor-ship? It just might. In which case, Sir John has reason to fear for the public purse.

Euro's nightmare scenario unfolds

uroland's nightmare sce-nario has not taken long to unfold. After just two months, Wim Duisenberg has felt obliged to concede that the economies so painfully corseted together by having to meet the Maastricht convergence rules al-ready seem to be diverging once more. While countries such as Ireland and Spain benefit to an embarrassing degree from the big cuts from their previous inter-

est rates, euroland's German powerhouse appears to be drifting ineluctably into a recession.

Mr Dulsenberg is indulging in a classic piece of English understatement when he says that the German slowdown complicates monetary policy. Whatever may happen in the future, it is plain that a law appears to the current of the control of the cont that a key argument of the euro's critics is correct. No single inter-est rate is yet suitable for the whole of the eurozone. Oskar Lafontaine's call for "a

policy mix for growth" has certainly gained credibility from the revelation that the German economy strank by 0.4 per cent in the last quarter of 1998. Compare the slight rise in the worse-placed UK economy, Asia and Russia are hurting an economy where manufacturing still matters. The ECB argues that Germa-ny's troubles are structural, not

cyclical, in order to justify its resistance to German bullying. Emphasising independence is clearly a vital plank in building ECB credibility.

A glance at the foreign ex-

for some part or another of eurochanges shows that there is a land, whose economies seem deslong way to go. An 8 per cent drop against the dollar and 5 per tined to diverge for some time. cent against sterling was not what the euroland fathers had in

mind for the first two months. The bickering has not helped. Mr Duisenberg understandably called on politicians to help steady the ship and rebuild confidence in the new currency. The thought remains, not just in Herr Lafontaine's mind, that if it were not for the euro, the Bundes-bank would be cutting rates now.

Supporting structural changes must take time. Strong nerves will be needed if the first serious challenge is not to blight the new currency permanently. But en-trenched positions should be

Another pressure point will come in two weeks' time. Next month's ECB meetings look more crucial. By then the European Commission should have slashed growth forecasts for the region as a whole. That will give France and Germany ammunition to intensify pressure on the tive, waste time moaning about

ECB to cut rates. They should not use it. At this stage the ECB is likely to delay a cut too long if it feels it would otherwise be giv-ing in. Whatever it does, the resulting policy will cause trouble

Rolls-Royce and Robins reliant

here is a story, perhaps apo-cryphal, that has Sir Ralph Robins, the chairman of Rolls Royce plc, the aero engineer, visiting an Eastern potentate. Sir Ralph arrives, only to be quizzed

about life in the luxury car trade.

If he had been interested in truly world-class products, the royal would have done his homework and asked about aircraft engines instead. While Rolls-Royce cars live off a reputation earned decades ago, Rolls-Royce plc is about here and now.

Next year, 80 per cent of deliveries should be designs born in the past decade. In an industry dominated by the elernal success of the Boeing 747, this is impres-sive. Rolls has taken currency fluctuation on the chin. Neither does John Rose, the chief execu-

interest rates nor the productivity levels of the British workforce. His commitment to keeping the

UK an aerospace powerhouse cannot be questioned.
Yet, despite wrenching market share from Pratt & Whitney and General Electric, Rolls is still the subject of suspicion in some quar-ters of the City. Analysts seem de-termined to find fault, some suggesting Rolls is selling engines too cheaply in the hope of a profit on spares and repairs, others even carping that Rolls might make such good engines that they will destroy their own aftermarket for spares and mainte-nance. Rolls's response is to let the figures tell the truth.

The company yesterday met its target of double-digit earnings growth. If it can do so again next year, investors might be forced to acknowledge that the company is doing something right.

Nott done

WHEN Sir John Nott took on the chairmanship of Hillsdown six years ago, the hope was that the former Defence Secretary would rapidly refine the extraordinary bundle of businesses that Sir Harry Solomon had assembled. Not quite. He waited until last year to demerge the housebuilder, Fairview, and Terranova chilled foods, driven to action by the failure of takeover talks with Unigate. Now Sir John is mov-ing on, Hillsdown still combines furniture, poultry and Chivers jams. A dog's breakfast.

Williams in danger of FTSE exit

By Paul Durman

WILLIAMS, the security and fire protection group, is in dan-ger of losing its place In the FTSE 100 list of Britain's leading companies.

Concern that Williams will shortly lose the support of index-tracking funds contributed to a 16%p fall in its share price yesterday to 348%p. The company, one of the star performers of the 1980s, is now worth £2.5 billion - making it substantially smaller than EMAP, Energis, Misys and South African Breweries, all of which are currently outside the FISE 100.

Williams has recast itself as a service group, and yesterday pointed to growth of 21 per cent in sales and 24 per cent in profits from its security systems and service group. Roger Carr, chief executive, plans that service businesses should grow from 40 to 60 per cent of the group over the next two years. Some analysts remain scepti-

Williams, there's a quite interesting 'jam tomorrow' story. But fund managers are less trusting than they were ten vears ago.

Underlying operating profits improved by 6 per cent to £302 million last year. The £170 million Williams made on the sale of its DIY fillers and coatings to ICI and of its NuTone business in the US enabled it to increase pre-tax profits from £254 million to £462.5 million.

Williams is expected to receive another £300 million from the Sotation of Robbia-lac, its Portuguese paint com-pany, and of its regional paint companies in the US.

The group said its continuing businesses, which include Yale and Kidde fire extinguishers, increased sales by 6 per cent and profits by II per cent at constant currencies. A final dividend of 10.04p a share lifts the total by cal. One said: "As ever with 3.1 per cent to 16.29p.

Nott to step down at Hillsdown

By ROBERT COLE

SIR JOHN NOTT, the former Tory Defence Secretary, is to retire from Hillsdown Holdigs, the troubled food group (See Commentary, this page). Sir John has been at the helm of Hillsdown for nearly six years, during which time the sprawling conglomerate built by Sir Harry Solomon, his predecessor, has been dismembered. Sir John will be replaced by a non-executive chairman. Peter Jacobs, latter-

ly chief executive of healthcare provider BUPA. Hillsdown yesterday reported a fall in underlying pre-tax profits from £100.5 million to £80.2 million. Poor conditions in the poultry business were blamed for the decline.

Pay-TV merger is off

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

PLANS for a £14 billion merger of BSkyB and France's Canal Plus, Europe's two biggest pay-television operators, have been abandoned.

Two serious problems quickly emerged. One was disagreement over who should run the merged entity and the different management styles of the French and of the Americans, Britons and Australians who run BSkyB.

The second was the position of News International, owner of The Times and 40 per cent owner of BSkyB. A merger with Canal Plus would have diluted News International's BSkyB stake. EU regulations also needed to be satisfied.

Elementis sees tough trading

By MARTIN BARROW

ELEMENTIS, the specialty chemicals company that emerged from the restructuring of Harrisons & Crosfield, yesterday gave warning that the difficult trading conditions of 1998 had continued into the first two months of the current year and were unlikely to im-

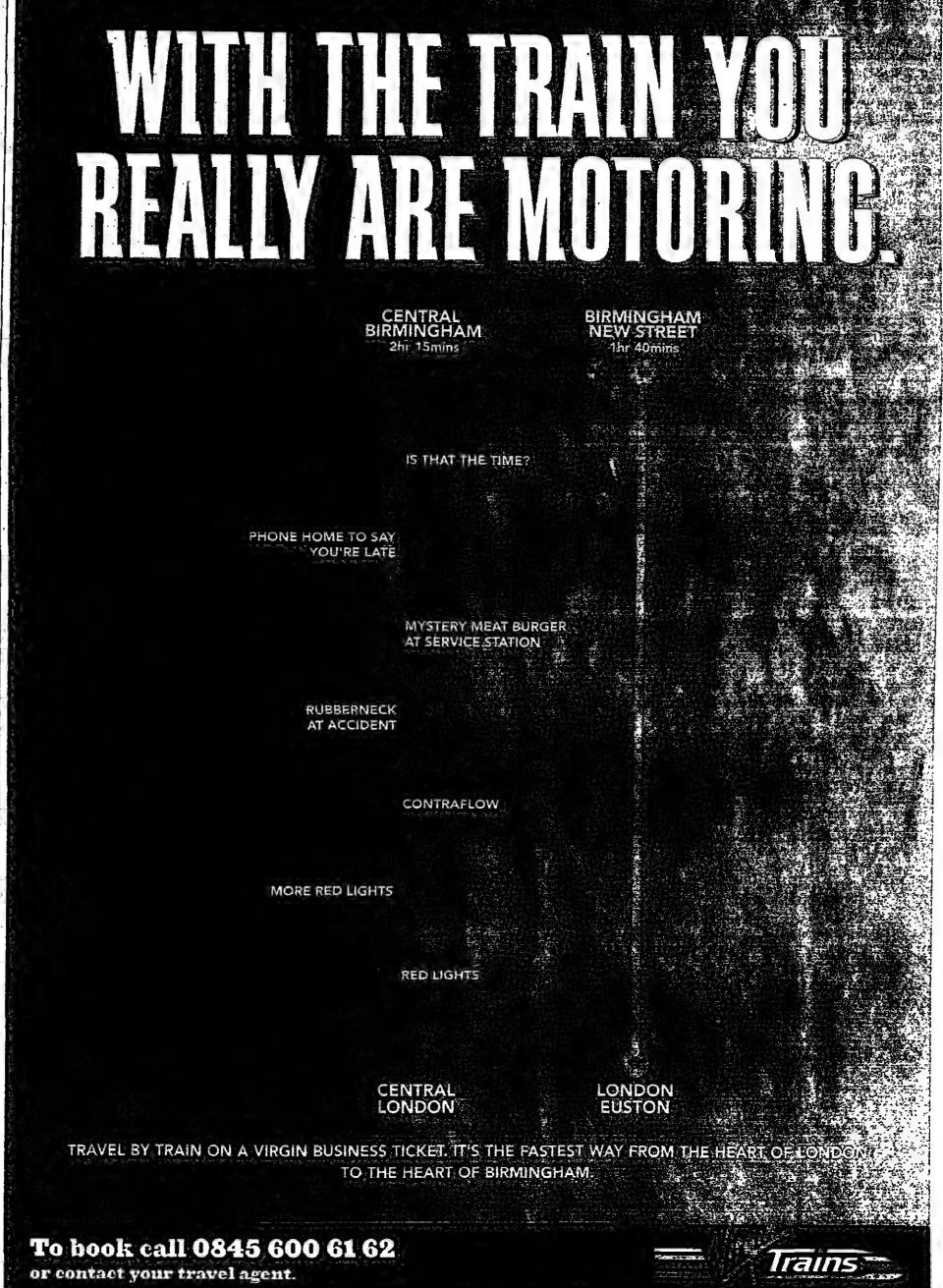
prove in the short-term. Lyndon Cole, chief executive, said: "We are under no illusions as to the competitive conditions we face, particulargiven the uncertainty over the outlook for the global econ-

The company yesterday reported a rise in operating profits from continuing opera ions to E61.5 million in 1998. from £44.7 million in the previis year. Sales from continuing operations rose to £534.2

million, from £471.5 million. Adjusted earnings per share were 9p. up from 8.8p previously. The total dividend is lifted to 5p a share, from 3.6p, with a final 3p. Elementis has emerged

from 18 months of restructuring, during which the company has divested itself of interests in seven non-core businesses, raising £626 million. The company has returned £402 million of capital to its shareholders and spent £277.8 million on the acquisition of Rheox, a specialty chemicals

Although the restructuring was designed to unlock shareholder value, the shares have not performed well. Yesterday they rose 11/2p to 75/4p, compared with 177p in mid-1998.



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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Albright reacts well to takeover speculation

REVIVED speculative buying in heavy trading hoisted Afbright & Wilson 14p to 109p. Almost 13 million shares changed hands with talk in the Square Mile suggesting a bid of 125p a share is on the way. That would value the specialty chemicals group at £391

million. Several large parcels of shares went through in late trading, including 2.28 million at 102p, 1.37 million at 103-sp. and 900,000 at 1031:p.

The speculators say the bid will come from across the Channel where rival chemical-maker Rhodia is flexing its corpofrom Rhone Poulenc, Williams certainly looks vulnerable, having seen its shares tumble from 207% p a couple of years ago.

Brokers say trading conditions remain difficult and Albright & Wilson may struggle to meet the earnings target of llp a share that some had forecast.

Share prices generally sported some useful gains but closed below the best of the day in spite of the strong opening lead for the Dow Jones industrial average in New York where investors became excited by news of the link-up between computer companies IBM and Dell.

The FTSE 100 index. up almost 70 points at one stage. eventually closed with a gain of 53.1 at 6,101.4. Much of the interest was concentrated among blue chips with the rise in the FTSE 250 index restricted to 27.9 at 5,314.S.

Total turnover was 1.14 billion shares, but investors remained cautious ahead of last night's decision on European rates, today's US economic data and next week's Budget.

The market seemed unimpressed with final results from Williams, down lot p at 3484:p. and it now seems inevitable that the group will lose its position as a constituent of the top 100 companies when the steering committee meets next week. Pre-tax profits were up. but boosted by an exceptional profit of £176 million from the disposal of several businesses. Williams, whose chief executive is Roger Carr, said the results reflected the benefits of

the Chubb acquisition. ing their place as top 100 constituents are Tomkias, down 5kp at 215p. Billiton. 15p firmer at 1330, and Safeway, 31-p cheaper at 252 p. They are



Roger Carr saw Williams shares retreat despite a profit rise. It is likely that the company will lose its FTSE 100 place

likely to be replaced by South African Breweries, lop strong-er at 45op, EMAP, up 58p at £14.18, and Misys, down 2013p

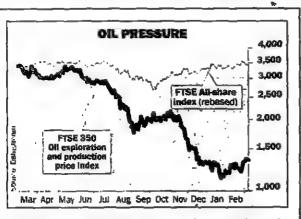
at off up.

Some bearish comments from HSBC Securities, the broker, left Zeneca 41p lower at £24.45. It has downgraded its recommendation from "add" to "reduce", reflecting the drug companies' exposure to patent

expiries. It was also doubtful that products currently in the pipeline could deliver earnngs growth.

HSBC rose ISp to £18.04 after some bullish comments. Credit Suisse First Boston, the broker, has raised its target price to £22.80 and Goldman Sachs is said to be positive on the shares.

The disappointing numbers



OIL exploration and production companies have been hard hit by the collapse in the oil price; so much so that they will cease to exist as a sector from

From then on, they will be lumped back in the wider oil and gas sector that already includes the likes of BP Amoco, up 45p at 902p. and Shell, 18hip dearer at

ker, gave warning that extreme oil price pressure may precipitate further corporate change, as the stocks attempt to maintain investor interest.

Yesterday share prices picked up with investors convinced that this month's Opec meeting will thrash out a solution to production

The problem has become so acute, they argue, that some members no longer have a choice.

7p to 129%p, and Cairn Energy, 51:p to 100p. British Borneo rallied 10p to 115p.

from PowerGen, down 19kp at 767kp, also had a knock-on effect on rival National Power, 154p off at 487p. Dresdner Kleinwort, the broker, has reduced its recommendation from "hold" to "reduce".

High-flying Select Appointments retreated 3p to 878p with C.K. Miles, finance director, unloading 100,000 shares at 880p. It reduces his holding to 38,323. The price has come up from a low of 353p since October.

Britannic finished with a

rise of 19p at £10.84 as Harold 2,000 shares at £10.90, it takes his total holding to 3,500 shares, or less than I per cent. Druid Group was 22½p dearer at £13.75 after John Pocock, managing director. sold 75,000 shares at £13.50. He still holds 679,665, or al

most 3 per cent. Tandem firmed kp to 2kp after Harry Turpin, a director, sold 2.29 million shares, or 2.4 per cent, at 3p. John Hanson, a private shareholder, has sold 4.6 million shares, or 4.9 per cent, for an undisclosed sum.

Profit-taking left Alexander Russell 15p cheaper at 1174p. The group confirmed it had received a bid approach last month. Since then, nothing fresh has emerged to excite the

Computerland continued to reel from this week's profits warning with the price closing

Ilip down at 89p.

Tadpole Technology enjoyed one of the best performances of the day, climbing 4p to 13%p. The group is carrying out tests with the water companies on a new portable information system that is expected to be a ☐ GILT-EDGED: Dealers reported an inversion of the curve yield as shorts recovered some of Wednesday's losses stemming from the absence of an interest rate cut, while longs gave up ground.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt eased 4p to £115.43 as a total of 31,000 contracts were completed. In longs. Treasury 8 per cent 2021 fell 44p to £144, while at the shorter end Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was 3p dearer at £106.07. ☐ NEW YORK: Shares were sharply higher in late morning trade after news of the IBM and Dell technology pact boosted the troubled high-tech-nology sector. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 158.65 higher at 9,434.53.

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MAJO	(C)		<i>-</i>
RISES:			
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Elec Retail Sys	121	+ 14	+ 14.7
Casis Stores	131 1631	+ 10	
Br Borneo		+ 10	+ 8.5
Sanderson Bram			
Cannons Grp			+ 9.3
Torotrak		+ 12	+ 92
EM		+ 25	+ 8.9
B: Vib			+ 84
Rentshaw			
Johnson Fry	147	+ 10	+ 7.2
Royal & Sun Al.		+ 36%	+ 6.6
GON.			+ 6.0 + 5.9
Enterprise		+ 16	+ 5.9
Abbey		+ 15	
Shell	3495		
DDA	426		6.5

Ocean Group Ang Am Gold	8411 ₂ 2316%	+ 45 + 52 + 40 + 49 + 106% + 48 + 35 + 4A
FALLS:		
Stock	Close	Ching Chang's
	_450	-100 - 18.1
Computer land U	K89	- 115 - 114
Russell (A)	1174	- 15 - 11.3
Williams	3481:	- 16% - 4.5
MISYS		- 254 - 4.0
M261	400%	- 15% - 4.0
RMC Gp		-23 - 3.8
NXT	470	-175 - 3.5
Mersey Docks	56012	- 192 - 3.3
Schroders	.1248	- 42 - 32

Insured for tomorrow?

IS ROYAL & SUNALLIANCE really shortchanging shareholders with its plan to return £750 million of capital via a special 48p dividend? According to critics, R&SA, by combining the payment with an 11-for-10 share consolidation, gets to buy 142 million shares at a 9 per cent discount. The shares shot up to 587p yesterday, but are being retired at 527p, so it looks like daylight robbery, much as it looked to Halifax shareholders when the former

building society initiated a similar scheme. A more conventional buyback arrangement could have been effected at a narrower discount. However, while it looks like robbery, it surely is not because no cash is going outside the business. The cake may be changing shape, but it remains - special dividend included - the same-sized cake.

That argument is sterile. Attention instead

should focus on whether R&SA management is wise to shrink its capital base. Once the special dividend is paid in June. R&SA will have returned £1.25 billion to shareholders in 12 months, and more may be on the way.

The cash repatriation policy is welcome enough, not least because the share price reacts positively — as it did yesterday. But after more than a decade of savage cuts in premiums charged for general insurance policies. rates are slowly beginning to improve. R&SA is operationally weighted to the general side too. Yes, last year was dreadful for claims losses, but for the first time in living memory there looks to be a chance that general insigance revenues will pick up, and, to take advantage of the growth, R&SA needs capital.

Give management the benefit of the doubt for now, however. Hold the shares.

bode ill for the shares. But at

14 times' forecast earnings.
Williams shares are cheap for

a company with an improv-

ing growth profile. The pros-

pect of a bid from Tyco Inter-

national, the American rival,

limits the downside and is

and services side was an im- City's entrenched scepticism

to dilute earnings.

The impending loss of liams qualities will again be supported. Hold.

Williams

IT IS easy to sympathise with Roger Carr's frustration at Williams's poor share price rating. The group has great brands in Chubb, Yale and Kidde, and it is successfully building faster growing service businesses such as running alarm monitoring centres. Why won't the City see the much brighter future?
The trouble is that Wil-

liams has spent years casting aside its conglomerate pas and presenting itself in new, fashionable lights. Yet nothing has worked. Why should the current emphasis on services intead of manufacturing be any different? After all, Williams's locks and fire extinguishers remain a long way from the innovative niches that has made Hays a star

of the business service sector. Organic profit growth from Williams's security systems

•	
PowerGen PowerGen has had a tricky few months. First it has had to cope with greater competition as the privatised duopoly with National Power has gradually broken down.	frameword ing is a which we incentive erators' But the capacity to diverse
its forced divestment of two power stations will cut into	more ca
profit. Secondly, the relative- ly mild weather has reduced	further This con
demand for PowerGen's mainstay product. Thirdly,	sion or, dends. I
the weather has knocked the	

tions has been out of action for a sustained period. This is all pretty bleak but simple bad luck darkens the picture. Weather cannot be legislated for and the station breakdown can be blamed more on misfortune than on

payments earned by genera-

tors to keep their power sta-

tions on standby. Fourthly,

one of PowerGen's power sta-

Compension in generating is less easily dismissed. That is likely to continue to stiffen.

ork for electricity tradilso to be overhauled, will reduce further the es offered to the gen-

pressive 16 per cent last year,

and even the products side im-

proved profits by 8 per cent.

However, the group faces a

challenge in moving the serv-

ices/manufacturing split to

60/40. In addition, the

planned disposals are likely

RUNNING TO STAND STILL

standby capacities. he cash raised selling y has enabled the firm sify. There will also be sh — maybe as much illion — coming from power station sales. uld fund more expan-, possibly, special divi-Hold the stock.

Mirror Group

REEL forward four or five months and it is likely that both Trinity and RIM will receive regulatory clearance for their "warmabe" bids for Mirror Group. In the case of Trinit seems that disposals will be required, but that is unlikely to stymie its interest.

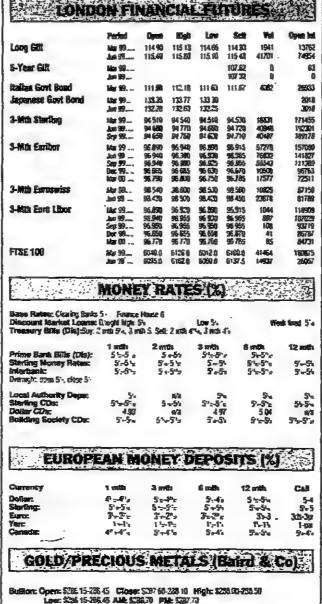
Mirror is currently trading at 200p. The current price is offer, now lapsed, from RIM. Merger conversations with Trinity involved a shares and cash deal worth about 210p. Both players are going to have to come up with significantly more money if their acquisition ambitions are to bear fruit. Mirror is far from disintegrating as yesterday's results demonstrated. Going forward it has a tidier strategy: concentrating on publishing and getting rid of assets such as the 20 per cent stake in Scottish Media. That can only support efforts to bid up the price not least because

Mirror can suggest it has a credible independent future. Mirror shares hit 250p last year when Axel Springer was nosing around, Serious postregulatory clearance talking will take place around the 235p level but could go higher. It is a long, slow game and the impatient will be forgiven for wanting to cash in their chips by selling in the market. The likely upside, however, suggests holding on is the

best current policy. **EDITED BY ROBERT COLE**

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South Africa's corporate chicken run may turn into a turkey shoot

The exodus to London could be an exposure too far, says Jon Ashworth

tomorrow

uring the apart-heid years, London was big on Marxist exiles and light on home-grown South African delights such as Outspan oranges and Castle lager. Few would admit to holidaying in South Africa and no one supported the Springboks. How times change. Today,

the freedom fighters have gone home. Londoners can't move for South African labels and Cape Town has become stination of choice. African household names such as Anglo American and South African Breweries (SAB) have started spring-ing up on the London Stock Exchange. For the estimated 300,000 to 400,000 South Africans living and working in Britain, this makes for a curious sense of déjà vu.

SAB, which brews Castle lager, is the latest in a line of big South African blue chip names to seek a primary listing in London. Anglo American makes its London debut in May, and Old Mutual, the Cape Town-based insurance group, could follow in June, pending approval from members, who vote on demutualisation on March II.

All three are expected to win a place in the FTSE 100 index of leading shares, following a lead set by Gencor, the mining group, which spun off its base metals interests into Billiton in July 1997. Billium, arrived with a bang, but has since seen its shares slide on weak metal prices, proving that membership of the FTSE 100 does not guarantee success.

The predominance of tracker funds ensures demand for FTSE 100 shares, but some UK fund managers are less than thrilled about this enforced exposure to South Africa - technically an emerging market. Such is the dominance of the companies involved that an entire chunk of South Africa - at a stroke - is being relocated to London.

The feeling among "ordi-nary" South Africans, white and black, is that the big boys are baling out. As one Johannesburg banker put it "The economy has not been good in the last 12 to 18 months. The man in the street is saying: These guys are off to London and we are stuck here.' Among reasonably well-informed professionals, there is definitely a perception that these companies are getting out."

This, then, is a late-Nineries version of what used to be called the "chicken run". In the final years of Afrikaner rule, white South Africans who emigrated were branded cowards for flitting the coop.

As a student in South Africa in 1985, I remember the shock when a group of white businessmen broke ranks to meet African National Congress leaders in Lusaka. This was a time of extreme paranoia,



Graham Mackay is sensitive to charges that SAB has deserted South Africa Sol Kerzner, the Sun City pioneer, with Naomi Campbell, the supermodel

slop could lead to your being

arrested and detained without

trial. The late Gavin Relly of

rather than political reasons.

bedieliows would go in search

Some see parallels with

Hong Kong, from where Jar-

dine Matheson moved its dom-

icile to Bermuda in 1984 - the

year Britain signed its agree-

ment to hand back the colony

to China. The listings of Jar-

dine group companies were shifted to Singapore in 1995.

The moves were greeted with

anger in Beijing. In London, South African

companies have a stock market that is highly liquid and

which gives them ready access

to foreign pounds and dollars.

Jan Newman, managing direc-

tor of SG Hambros South Afri-

ca, said: "They are gaining efficiency in terms of raising capi-

tal and internationalising

Johannesburg has long been dominated by big-name play-ers, such as SAB, Anglo Amer-

ican, Rembrandt and Gencor.

Blocked from investing over-

seas, the big groups took stakes

toriously illiquid stock market.

themselves.".

of new sources of capital.

"Hanoi Jane".

This is changing as companies unbundle themselves, but not

fast enough for some.
Gencor embarked on just such an unbundling exercise Anglo American, who led the contingent, became an enin the early 1990s, hiving off inraged Pretoria's equivalent of terests including Engen (the former Mobil oil in South Afri-ca) and Sappi, the paper group SAB is seeking to do Business took the initiative then, and is doing the same again now, even if for economic the same, but remains typical-With a selective loosening of forly South African in its diverse eign exchange controls, it was spread of holdings. inevitable that Anglo and its

Money from all those Castle cans has been channelled into soft drinks, hotels and gaming and shopping centres. SAB owns Southern Sun, the hotels group built up by Sol Kerzner, the Sun City pioneer. South-em Sun holds the local Holiday Inn franchise, has a 50 per cent stake in a casino operator, and owns nearly 20 per cent of



Relly: met with ANC in 1985

Edgars, a department store

Graham Mackay, SAB's group chief executive, is sensitive to charges that the company has deserted South Africa. We would have languished in South Africa and lost our growth prospects," he said. "There will be a lot of deals in this industry and we either have to take part or be a

Anglo American is merging with Minorco, its Luxembourg registered cousin, to create a &6 billion entity, Anglo American plc. Known for its gold, diamonds, platinum and coal, Anglo represents a broad crosssection of South African life. Its interests span forestry (Mondi), car assembly (Samcor), sugar (Tongaat-Hulett), construction



Manuel: no guarantees

that he harboured any ambi-

tions to become Tory leader. A

sure sign that he is gradually

becoming more of a politician

Cutting edge

NEWS reaches me that Sanyo,

the giant Japanese electronics

group, has developed a revolu-

tionary new bread-cutting board called "Bread plus".

This fine product is made.

from ABS plastic (whatever that is) and has curningly de-signed sides to hold a loaf of

bread in place while you cut it. On its product website, Sanyo

points out that the board is YZK compliant". So, for that

matter, is my old bread board.

but I suppose it is not at the cut-ting edge of technology.

Telling word

AT yesterday's Mirror Group

fine rendition of the William

Tell overture.

than a retailer.

financial services (FirstRand), explosives (AECI) and wine estates (Vergelegen).

These are all household names in South Africa. The new-look Anglo will present itself as a global mining and natural resources company with related industrial activities. It is engaged in simplifying its arcane corporate structure, which is intimately bound up group, and the interests of the

penheimer family. Anglo says that the move to London will allow it to compete more effectively on the world stage and exploit new business opportunities. List-ing particulars are due next month and dealings are expected to commence on May 25.

Old Mutual has negligible overseas interests, making this the most controversial of the newcomers. Fund managers have expressed unease about buying in a company so heavi-ly exposed to South Africa. It has a token UK presence, owning two private client stockbrokers, Capel-Cure Myers and Albert E Sharp, and selling unit trusts, but relies on South Africa for 90 per cent of its sales.

Other companies with their eye on London include Barlows (industrial). Del Monte (food), Sasoi (oil-from-coal) and a clutch of IT companies: Dimension Data (Didata); Comparex; Datatec: and Ixchange.

Interesting as all this is, one cannot escape the feeling that the only winners in this scenar-

I HAD always assumed that Blooms of Bressingham, the garden centre chain owned by Flying Flowers, was named after its principal product. I couldn't have been more wrong. Yesterday's announcement that the firm is to be sold to a management buy-in team for £1.7 million informs me that Adrian Bloom, the gardening pioneer and the firm's founder, is to become honorary president of the new busi-

DOMINIC WALSH



Norman: same old story

Outdoor team-building event is pleasing clients

From Mr Andrew Finan

Sir. The Times recently claimed ("Dramatic change to art of team building", Busi-ness Life, February 6) that organisations engaging in practical management development were turning away from outdoor team-building events to more artistic pursuits such as barefoot dancing and reading Shakespeare. Our statistics show otherwise.

Our company organises the Securicor Challengers Trophy, the UK's largest inter-business outdoor training event, and last year the number of teams taking part in the event grew by 56 per cent to 88 teams. This year we already have over 70 companies booked and are heading or a sell-out event by June. The number of women taking part last year grew by 270 per

Our success lies in delivering a balance of physical, intel-

lectual and practical challeng es that are best tackled as a team and are within the reach of anyone who is reasonably fit. The formula works for our clients. Over 85 per cent of companies come back the following year, while 100 per cent say they reach their corporate objectives. We count Microsoft, BT, Lloyds TSB, Cable & Wireless, Cisco. BP and Orange among our customers.

Barefoot dancing and reading Shakespeare might be just fine for some. However, if corporations wish to build strong-er teams then outdoor management training offers proven benefits and is certainly more populur. Yours faithfully ANDREW FINAN

(Director, Challenger UK Marketing, London, Sponsorship Bureau International). Grosvenor Gardens House, 35-37 Grosvenor Gardens. London SWIW OBS.

Programme sponsorship continues

From the Director of Sponsor-ship, Cariton Television

Sir, Contrary to the article which appeared in the Media section of The Times on February 19, The Sun is continuing its sponsorship of Who Wants to be a Millionaire? for the next series. Your remarks on ITV

increasing the price are also incorrect: the levels of investment required for the show have not changed since it was first transmitted last

However, the relationship

with The Sun has changed. In the first series The Sun was partner in assisting ITV to promote the show to potential participants. Since that time, The Sun has continued its association with the programme as a broadcast sponsor and has purchased the right to run its own interactive game through the Yours faithfully,

DAVID PROSSER, Director of Sponsorship, Carlton Television, 101 St Martin's Lane,

Developers declare open Wharfare

From the Chairman of The British Land Company

Sir, We were amused to see the comment attributed to George Iacobescu, chief executive of the Canary Wharf Group, in The Times of March 2, that "I looked at the design of Plantation House (a City development). What happens if someone wants 700,000 so it instead of

500,000 sq ft?". Send them

io are the companies them-

selves. While Anglo and the

rest load up on pounds and

dollars, shareholders back

home remain trapped by re-

South Africa's economy is in

poor shape, with little sign of the much anticipated foreign in-

vestment. Crime is as big a

problem as ever, and Nelson

Mandela's departure from polit-

ical life heralds a fresh period of

uncertainty. Elections are due

There is also no guarantee

that Pretoria will relax its grip

indefinitely. Trevor Manuel.

the Finance Minister, has said

that applicants will not auto-

matically be granted the right

to move to London. Those that

do - like Billiton before them

- may find their confidence in

tracker funds has been some-

what overdone. The great

corporate chicken run may yet

turn into a turkey shoot.

strictive exchange controls.

well away from the boon-Yours faithfully JOHN RITBLAT, Chairman, The British Land Company, 10 Cornwall Terrace,

Corporation as being easily

identifiable names for these

two divisions which can be

abbreviated to BEA and

BOAC respectively for incorpo-

ration within the company

along, Mr Iacobescu, send

them along - and we will be

entirely happy to provide them with 700,000 sq ft on our

site in the heart of the City.

BA action could resurrect old names

Sir, Your report on March that Virgin Atlantic is to adopt the Union Jack in a new design for its aircraft went on to say that to stem its market loss BA had begun an internal restructuring which would en-tail dividing the company into short-haul (UK and Europe) and long-haul businesses. Might I presume to suggest

RICHARD GRIFFITH, 68 Grove Park Terrace, Chiswick. London W4 3JL British European Airways

Yours faithfully,



Backtrack

Kalms, is poised to rekindle his working relationship with the electrical retailer - nine years after he quit as corporate affairs director to plough his

own furrow. ITIS, a privately owned traffic information provider, has persuaded Kalms Jr to become a non-executive director alongside the former Tory Trans-port Minister. Steven Norris. His role will be to oversee the alliance announced yesterday between ITIS and Minorplanet, the quaintly named maker of vehicle-management sys-



RICHARD KALMS, son of terms that is listed on AIM. Spe-Dixons chairman Sir Stanley cifically, he will help ITIS to cifically, he will help ITIS to persuade Dixons to stock its products, which include security tracking devices for cars. Since he left Dixons in 1990.

Mr Kalms has spent most of his time at Union Pictures, a TV and film production company. But he sold out last year to set up his own Internet consultancy called Hi Technology Ventures. "I consider myself the personal Internet adviser to Sir Stanley Kalıns," he joked. "I tell him which but-tons to press." And, by the sound of it, which car-tracking devices to stock.

WILDE Sapte, the City law firm, was celebrating on Monday night after its football team won the London Legal Football League, thus bringing to an end the dominance of Grays Inn. champions for the past four years. Wilde Sapte clinched the title with a 20 win over Slaughter and May — a particular pleasure for centre-half Bruce Macleod, the firm's grandly titled director of know how, who previously worked at Slaughter. and May and was up against several former colleagues and



Arch rival? I AM told that if there is one

thing that William Hague hates it is Archie Norman reminding people that he once gave the Conservative leader a

But our Archie, who is not only chairman of Asda but also chief executive of the Tories (and apparently known to some at Central Office as "that Grocer'), cannot help himself. At the Retail Week conference yesterday he was at it again. confiding to the audience of several hundred: "I recruited him for a job once. I interviewed him at McKinsey and he worked for us as a consult-

presentation to analysis, new chief executive John Allwood was asked whether any further thought had been given to changing the name of the company. Just at that moment a mobile phone - that of Richard Dale of Salomon Smith Barney - went off, giving a

"We're thinking of calling it the William Tell Company," piped Allwood without miss-ing a beat — prompting the Norman went on to deny

first round of applause for the Mirror Group from analysts for many a long year.

city.diary@the-times.co.uk



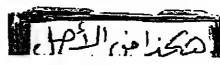
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MUSIC Gidon Kremer takes his fiddle to the tango PAGE 35.

THE





RECOMMENDED THIS WEEKEND

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargle

LONDON

ANDITE PRIEVIN 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, Showbrz, glemour and classical music combine in equal measure in this concert where supermeasure in this content where super-dina Kin Te Kanava is forned by the high-profile conductor and plainst in songs by Mozart. Strauss and Dupare. Barblean (0171-638 8891) Sunday. 7.30pm. (3)

TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM: The Festival Half's musical journey through the 20th century reaches the 1990s this year. In the first of two concerts this weekend (tomorrow, 7 30pm) Sir Smon Rattle conducts the City of Briningham Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in a programme leaturing three composers representing the globalising musical frends of the decade. Lutoslawski, Takemitsu and John Adams, On Sunday (7.45pm) the London Sintonietta and Vonce under James Wood explore the theme of spirituality in pieces from Sieve Reach and Jonathan Harvey, Festival Half (0171-960, 4242). © TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM: The

THE WAY OF THE WORLD: Sam This way or this would same water for company in Congreve's matchiess comedy of manners orange Tree (0181-8-0, 3633). Opens tonight, 7.45pm, (2)

ELSEWHERE

MANCHESTER The Organizates of the



André Previn celebrates 70 with a Barbican recital

Arta Cullis and William Dazeley. Edward Downes conducts. Bridgewater Hall (0161-907 9000). (5)

CORFORD: Music by Bach arranged by Mozart provides the suspiration for Richard Aiston's latest dance work, Slow Ars Almost All of Them. Premiered last month this is the work's second showing during the company's current UK four. Playhouse (01865 798600), Tonight, Sprin, tomorrow, 7,30pm, (a)

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London 📕 House full, returns only 🗓 Some seats available 🗌 Seats at all prices

SLAVA'S ENOWSHOW. Tro excellent Russian clown and mime artist Slave Polunin returns, with new material and new clowns, as well as rgenable linale. Ny **Theatre (0**171-369 1734).

☐ BLUE HEART: Caryl Churchill's pair of plays Heart's Desire and Blue Kettly express family disruption through tricks with words, Man Stationf-Cark directs for Qut Of Joint, Pleasance Theatre (0171-609 1800). ☐ THE COLOUR OF JUSTICE: THE STEPHEN LAWRENCE INQUIRY: Trcycle Theatre's shocking account of the sequence of mistakes. Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317).

THREE DAYS OF RAIN: Essibeth McGovern heads the cast of Richard Greenberg's play. Robin Letevre directs the journey back to 1980.

N MACRETH: Furius Sewell and Sally Dexter play the superstations thans and his mass in John Crowley's production. See review, right. Queens, W1 (0171-494 5041).

☐ BARSFACED CHIC: Fascinating Adia play here for a month before setting off on their latest national tour. This time Carlus Peters directs. Theatre Royal, Haymantet (0171-630 8800) ⑤ DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN.
Mark Little makes his West End debut
in Rob Becker's new comedy, tracing
the origins of the manyworman

difference back to the caves. Apollo (0171-494 5070). COPENNACEN: Heisen m continuous rails on Niets Bohr in warting Denmark. Michael Frayn's intelligent play transfers to the West End. Michael Blakemore directs.

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

BELOVED (15)* Oprah Winkey is surpresingly powerful as a runsway slave haunted by potengests, lynch mobs, and a deed daughter, Jonathan Demme's overlong film talls, however, FESTEN (15): Thomas Vinterburg's brungly black Danish larce leatures. us family reunion. Shot will

taneous, ghastly, and DETICIOUSAY VOVEUN KIM & ADAMS (NFT): kinesa Ouedraggo's African buddy movie is a mostly enchanting parable about two treats who share a dream but the output movies Country and a size

hand-held cameras it manages to

it out of the pulpit. THE 39 STEPS (U): Hitchcock's witty take on Buchan's ripping yarn is full of tabulous set pieces. Robert Donas's smooth bachelor dashes pering police and ruthless spies. A romance and good hand-culting rarely feel more than a frame away.

CURRENT

THE THIN RED LINE (15): A The India House (1) gittering cast of American soldiers lose their sanity in the South Facilic during the Second World War. An artistic masterprece. With Sean Penrand Nick Holts.

YOU'VE GOT MAD. (PG): Bullet-proof Hanks and Meg Ryan who fall in love on the Internet. Written and directed by Nora Ephron. TITANIC TOWN (15): Julie Walters

excels as a pugmacious housewife in this grim review of Northern tretands Troubles circa 1972. Roger Michell directs. URBAN LEGEND (18): Dire James Blanks honor flick that stages through an American campus with the help of a migraine-inducing orchestra.

Rufus in tooth and claw from the

حوالة التي المستعمر والمن أن أيضًا والمنطوع في التي التي أن يكون أن المنطوع المنطوع المنطوع المنطوع التي التي ا

doubts about Ru-fus Sewell's Macbeth, at least one must congratulate him on refusing to pander to his fan club in the balcony. If his performance is limited, it is also utterly unsentimental. You would have to postulate a MacTamberlaine or a Mc-Saddam to find a harsher usurper of the Scots crown. But then this Scotland is itself an unvariegated and, until the English invasion brings a few dozen feet of blue sky, for-

> THEATRE Macbeth

> > Queen's

lairds lit up by thinly glimmering spots, and so few props that, when stools, a table and six goblets appear for what one might call Macbeth's state picnic, the stage seems peril-ously overfurnished.

John Crowley's production is direct, fluent and pacey, but so spare one wonders why Macbeth covets its contents. On Sewell stomps like Mike Tyson entering the ring, a glowering, hoarse-voiced figure in black leather. He is so much the ambitious soldier that his first great soliloquy comes across not as a tussie with his conscience but as a de-bate about his military preparedness. When he hears of Duncan's promotion of his son Malcolm to heir apparent, he packs so much menace into his declaration that this is a "step" to "o'erleap" that you feel a whole staircase has been fatally o'erleapt aiready. And from then on he sneers and angrily snaps at everything, from the thought that Banquo's progeny will one day be kings to his own insomnia.

ut where is the "milk of human kindness"
his wife fears will
prevent him has will ing a regicide? Well, it has been spiked with 140 per cent proof vodks. And where is the vulnerability, the inner sense of horror, the imagination, the richness of personality that makes Macbeth a tragic hero? Only after Sewell returns from Duncan's murder, wailing in pain as his bloody fingers writhe like a bunch of worms fleeing from the mouth of a pike, does one sense any of



No room for sentiment: Rufus Sewell and Sally Dexter as the royally unpleasant couple at the heart of a neo-brutalist Macheth

thing else. The witches are dis-

appointingly unsinister maids

in grey bonnets; but Peter Bay-

liss is a wonderfully dilapidat-

ed porter and Decian Conlon's

fine Macduff the only serious

is a sensual, at times almost fe-

ral woman, given to rubbing

at her breasts, her hips, her

crotch and her husband; but,

to judge by the way she pushes

him and he tugs her hair, its

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that; and then it seems pretty inconsistent. Otherwise Sewell is the dictator who rages uncontrollably at a ghost who in this production remains a figment of his fancy, and then descends into the state of snariing nihilism in which he dies. It is a watchable but narrow

interpretation that is not deepened even by his bond with Sally Dexter's Lady Macbeth. She

EVEN as tough calls go, Agamemnon has a doozie. Somehow — and soon — he must decide between being a good father

ed daughter to secure good fortune for Colin Teevan's new version of Euripedes's Iphigenia in Tauris places this mythic choice in a land where people mostly speak with Ulster accents. The translation is not heavy-handed, but performed in the context of peace-process ireland, one idea is clear: only the big sacri-

and making a blood sacrifice of his belov-

fices can bring the big rewards. But while there is not too much room. for uncertainty as to why Teevan and the director David Grant might want to see Euripedes's tale on a Belfast stage at this moment, not everything in their production enjoys the same clarity. They have difficulty, in the end, in seizing the strange currents and political correspondences in the piece.

Certainly Grant goes to some pains to that seems to be his abiding concern. His

basis is rough sex. No wonder, ly sensitive character onstage. perhaps, that he is soon ignor-The evening is summed up ing her and she has become a by the moment Banquo gives stiff, waxen near-zombie. Macbeth the diamond that the genial Duncan wishes to present to Lady Macbeth. Their bond is as unsentimentally handled as almost every-Euripides

in Ulster

drop in contemporary references. He reconfigures the chorus, for example, as a hoard of spiced-up Billie clones, ogling the warriors of Ancient Athens as their

1990s counterparts might members of. Boyzone, but it offers no real signal of what is to follow. Teevan could have been far more cavalier with the story, but it is the language

This review appeared in late editions yesterday new text is seasoned with freshly coined portmanteau words and snatches of Greek brusquely compressed into Uister English. Sometimes this works, but occasionally the linguistic freedom be takes simply grates as the sheer weight of "throatcuts", "lifegones" and father-

Maybe my eyes were affected

by the murk, but I saw no jew-

el, no handover. You will find

nothing very rich or exotic in

this neo-bruralist production.

BENEDICT

NIGHTINGALE

loves" slow the proceedings unduly. As the man with the big decision to make Sean Hannaway is a less than imposing leader, while Morna Regan's Iphigenia is never satisfyingly colloquial. Stronger work comes from Donncha Crowley, whose gossipy old man oils the plot, and from Paula McFetridge, as the formidable but bested Clytemnestra.

Gary McCann's riveted steel set thrusting into the auditorium provides interesting spaces in which the cast can dance. crawl and thrash in despair. Paul O'Neill's lighting gives the huge struc-ture the woozy fluidity of a land in flux.

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Not that she would have been blamed for showing apprehension; her bassist, Reginald Veal, missed his transatlantic flight and had to be replaced at short notice by London's own Geoff Gascoyne Fortunately, though, he was more than up to the task.

Gascoyne needed all the skill and adaptability at his command, for Reeves is not the sort of jazz singer who mines the familiar standards



might reasonably have been expected to be familiar with -

series of intensely personal songs replete with spoken testifying passages, sudden flights of vocal fancy and luxuriously extended endings. A tender story of taboo love, So Sweet, Too Young, was followed by a clutch of reflective, philosophical songs, culminating in two of her best-known originals: Nine, which celebrates the imaginative play indulged in by children of that age, and a lengthy concluding paean of praise to Reeves's grandmother, detailing her preparations for Sunday church.

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repertoire. Even songs he such as Morning Has Broken, the opening hymn, Mongo Santamaria's Afro Blue and Jerome Kern's Yesterdays were performed in tight, personalised arrangements that drew heavily on the rapport between drummer Terron Gully and percussionist Munyungo Jackson. Indeed. Afro Blue complicated matters further by constantly threatening to break from the jazzy lope of the Coltrane version into the Cuban rhythm hinted at throughout by Venezuelan pi-anist Otmaro Ruiz. And then it got really difficult: Reeves embarked upon a

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they came from - you will grasp

with authority and expertise bow

to those without," they will move

on to discussing the question on everyone's lips: "Is the rejection of

a grand narrative in literature a

way of avoiding the tricky question of quality? We speak of little else

in the pubs of Hendon. And on and

on they will ramble, from 7pm to-

night until late on Sunday evening.

For this is no dinner party. This is Culture Wars: Dumbing Down. Wising Up? — a conference at the Riverside Studios in Hammer-

the nature of the beast.



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Us peasants are revolting, aren't we? that staple companion to the coffee

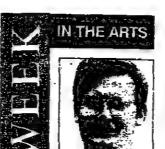
tural elitism?". As for the talkers, if ulation that it could well win this I merely whisper the words Bragg. Tusa, Adie and Humphreys — and year's Turner Prize. And the fact that its co-sponsor is Living Marxadd that there are 150 more where ism — or LM as the magazine coyly calls itself in these consensual times - gives it a lovely extra twist When these mighty minds have finished pondering "the tyranny of relevance" and lamenting "what happens to culture when those of irony, does it not? If I were a Marxist living at the end of the 20th century, I would be very wary of telling others what's wrong with their culture. I would look on my own works and despair.

But the "dumbing down" issue is the chic cultural chatter of our day. So it's no surprise that 150 of our finest thinkers have been tempted to display their cranial wares on LM's stall. After all, there isn't much point in being a middle class intellectual if you can't spend a weekend moaning to your chums about how slobbish the working classes are, how the evil media are pandering to mankind's basest whims, and how educational standards have fallen to a level not expe-

vance to the lives of the British pop- rienced in these isles since the early years of Stonehenge

The fact that on Monday morning most of the participants will return to comfortable jobs in newspapers, broadcasting or universities (and, in some remarkable cases, all three) is merely seen as adding a piquant authenticity to their discus-sions. For if the middle-class intellectual has another distinguishing trait beyond a penchant for prescribing what's good for other peo-ple, it is shameless hypocrisy.

Only three things are worth saying about "dumbing down". The first is that it has been regularly diagnosed for centuries, even if dreary American academics think they invented it in 1996, and civilisation hasn't come to a crunching halt yet. Indeed, my favourite example of needless doom-monger-ing comes from the world of music 250 years ago. When early 18th-cencontrapuntal complexities of Bach



المكذا من الأجل

by producing tinkling little times over elementary harmonies, connoisseurs were horrified at this pandering to lowbrow taste. Yet within 20 years of Bach's death the boy Mozart had turned that new "hanal" style into the most sublime sounds the world had ever known. Mozart, in other words, was a product of a "dumbed down" culture. where, but I leave it to the deep thinkers at this weekend's conference to work out what it is.

The second point is that although in a capitalist democracy the bulk of our culture is inevitably aimed at a mass audience, the fact is that "elitist" pursuits and "cen-tres of excellence" not only survive but flourish. When I look around London and see its 40 theatres, its dozen top-flight orchestras, its grand museums, its huge newspe per and magazine industry, and its armies of designers, writers, sing-ers, hoofers and artists, I don't see a city of dreadful philistine night. On the contrary, I see a place where the popular and esoteric ex-ist cheek-by-jowl in a glorious ar-cade whose pleasures could not be

exhausted in a hundred lifetimes. My third point? It's a message to the glum nostalgists who will un-doubtedly dominate the portenious proceedings in Hammersmith, If you believe something is worth preserving, go out and fight for it. Don't mope around, moaning about "the tyranny of relevance". Follow the orchestras' example. No cultural organisations feel more be-leaguered than them. Their grants are puny, they are battling to win the hearts of a generation that has been denied a reasonable musical education at school, and they are snubbed by the sad middle-aged rockers running this Government.

But you won't find them be-wailing our "dumbed down" nation this weekend. Tomorrow they launch the BT-sponsored National Orchestra Week. Not only will they throw open concert halls to all comers for rehearsals and talks. They will also venture out into the real world, into places where they will meet people who wouldn't dream of coming to a classical concert. They will play in railway stations.

shopping centres, caffs and supermarkets. One orchestra has even done a deal with McDonald's in Grays, Essex; it will perform a "McCulture Evening" there on Monday. Risky? Of course. If the patrons don't approve, a quarterpounder with cheese makes a formidable missile. But definitely worth the gamble. And the week also includes some vast education projects. In Stoke, 500 teenagers will perform with the BBC Philhar-monic, while in Cardiff 4,000 tenyear-olds will sing with the National Orchestra of Wales.

Is this dumbing down? I hardly think so. The music to be played in these unlikely venues ranges from Beethoven to the avant-garde. But of course the scheme does bow to that dreadful thing, "the tyranny of relevance". In effect orchestras are saying: "We can't watch passively as our audiences fade away; we ve got to go out and play Pied Piper." It may work, or it may be the last gasp of a dying breed. With all my heart I hope it's the former. But either way, it's a lot better than sit-ting around bemoaning how the country's gone to the dogs.

DRAWING BY HORST JANSSE

Shed a tear for the finest poet of all

MUSIC: This weekend Goethe the lyricist will take

over London's concert halls. Hilary Finch reports

ne of the anecdotes which Lieder-lovers love to quote most is the one about the youthful Schubert sending off a parcel of his settings of Goethe's poems to the venerable master in Weimar - and hearing nothing more. Return. to sender. Aha, they say, even Goethe, pompous old polymath that he was, had no idea of the lad's true genius.

Perhaps he was just too busy polishing his quartz collection, working on his Colour Theory, writing Faust ... Or maybe he saw all too well that Schubert's music was metamorphosing his words, taking them somewhere way beyond, on into unknown territory. The notorious snub to Schu-

bert is one of the countless imponderables in a life which THAN WINCES HAVE USED TO DO etrate imaginatively. For the English, Goethe - ever uncategorisable, ever German - can still seem a baffling, far-distant figure. His novels have never been bestsellers; his plays are seldom staged. We know the Faust of Gounod, of Berlioz and of Liszt — to say nothing of the Mefistofele of Boito, soon to appear at the Coliseum - better than we know Goethe's own, It is, in fact, through music that many of us know Goethe at all; and music is the focus of a festival this weekend presented by the Festival Hall and the Goethe institute to celebrate this year's 250th anniversary of the

great man's birth. Born while Bach was putting the finishing touches to his fugues, and dying even as Wagner began to look out to the far harmonic horizons. Goethe had strong, often idio-

asked the pianist Roger Vignoles, who devised tomorrow's concert, why two of the composers. Goethe admired most - Zelter, an early songwriter, and Mozart - do not figure in the programme. Mo-zart, after all, was the only composer Goethe felt he would want to entrust with

"Yes," Vignoles says, "I im-

Goethe expected singing to be a deeply emotional activity?

agine that was because of Don Giovanni - there's a good bit of hellfire there! But Mozart set only one of Goethe's poems. Zelter, though, embodied the way Goethe felt words should be set to music. Goethe definitely saw music as the servant of the word, rather than vice versa."

Is this why we now find his songs much less interesting than Schubert's? "Well, we're used to the kind of liberties that a Schubert will take with Goethe. But I suspect Goethe would have found it excessive and over-individualistic."

We know something, too, of what Goethe expected of performance. The second half of tomorrow's recital focuses on

syncratic, views on music. I travels of a young man in the company of a theatre troupe, a blind man and a strange young Italian exile. "Goethe would preface the songs he wrote for these characters with instructions that they be sung with the most heartfelt feeling." Vignoles says. "He expected singing to be a deeply emotional activity: he envisaged singers being moved to tears. Perhaps it was just part of living in a highly sentimental age. But we have to be careful: this sensibility can be different from what we now call sentimentality, known during the Victorian era."

> o nobody will know quite now many boxes of tissues to bring for themselves or for the soprano Solveig Kringelborn. the partione lhomas Allen and the narrator San West as they emote their way through songs and readings from Wilhelm Meister, scenting out the shifting responses to Goethe of Schubert, Schumann and

> For the first half of the evening, Vignoles has selected settings by Beethoven, Schubert and Liszt which, he says, "reveal the very heart of Goethe. I'm stire it was thesheer energy of his poetry which made it irresistible to these composers."

Schubert's famous setting of the horror-ballad of that fatal nightride through the forest is spurned in favour of the less well-known Loewe song. "Goethe might well have pre-ferred it." Vignoles says. Loewe preserves the poem's rhythmic structure much more closely, and follows the natural inflection of the words.



"If you come knowing not a word of Goethe," says the organiser of one of this weekend's concerts, "his presence will, I hope, leap out at you from the music"

Schubert's masterstroke, of course, is not only the galloping piano part, but his daring handling of the key changes. But Loewe builds up excitement by other means. He certainly suffers a lot in the shadow of Schubert."

In a Sunday afternoon of masterdasses, Vignoles will doubtless be encouraging his young charges to get to know Goethe, man and poet, from the inside, "to know where he's coming from, the language he speaks, as a means to develop their own interpretative technique". Having said that, Vignoles remains adamant that it is through music itself that we shall perhaps know most and best about Goethe. "He gave to every composer this extraordinary elemental energy. His life resonated through theirs. If you come this weekend knowing not a word of Goethe, his presence will, I hope, leap out at

you from the music." Goethe: Life, Love and Music is at the Queen Elizabeth Hall to-marrow at 7.45pm; Purcell Room, Sunday at 2.30pm (free); Festival Hall, Sunday at 7.30pm. Special

smo Vänskä and the Lahti Symphony Or-Chestra had a most rewarding time in Birmingham. Symphony Hall was not quite as well attended on the second day of their examination of the Sibelius anatomy but six encores is an impressive total for two concerts devoted to some of the least familiar aspects of

just one composer. Their success was all the more remarkable because the Lahti Symphony is not the most giamorous orchestra of its kind. It is neither seductive nor brilliant in sound. But if the relatively small number of strings limits the dynamic range available, there is compensation in the consistent clarity of the textures. Clarity was more important

than ever on this particular oc-casion. In performing the long-neglected Wood Nymph and Spring Song, the rarely heard Luonnotar and early versions of En Saga and the Violin Concerto, Vänskä and the Lahti SO were presenting demonstrations as much as interpretations. Of course, they confirmed that Sibelius's final revisions to En Saga and the Vlolin Concerto were unquestiona-

Lahti SO/Väliska Birmingham

nid Kavakos as soloist in the

bly beneficial. It was instructive, however, to hear the case for the early versions (with Leo-

Violin Concerto) presented not only in all clarity but also with apparently complete convic-

It would have been even more instructive to hear the original 1915 version of the Fifth Symphony. Of course, when a conductor can make as thrilling an effect as Vanska

did not have the stamina to push the advantage through and sustain the continuity to a full-scale heroic conclusion.

GERALD LARNER

does in negotiating the awk-

ward change of metre and tem-

po in the joined-up first move

ment of the 1919 version, it

must be difficult to renounce

the chance to do it. That is not

the end of the work, however.

and on this occasion it seemed

that Vänskä and the Lahti SO

or**£4.99**each VADGHAN WILLIAMS SYMPHOMES NOS. 5 MILES Base FINZ CLARINET CONCERTO

A tepid tango

WHEN the programme compares a composer to Schubert, Duke Ellington, Mahler, a potency drug, Bertolt Brecht, and dirty clothes, you know someone is getting carried away. Astor Piazzolla's tango music seems to do that to people. The hall was packed, the au-

dience lured no doubt by Gidon Kremer's two Piazzolla. CDs and the tango's new eminence at the height of world music fashion. Attention was rapt. Kremer walked on with his violin, and throbbed, swooped and lurched through two solo etudes. Other instruments gathered: a viola, a cello, a second violin. Then a long thin Lithuanian dancer, Egle Spokaité, added her pennyworth to Milonga per Tre. Finally Marcelo Nisimman showed up with his bandoneon, spooning its sweet and

sour sauce over the music. The dancer was an obvious mistake. It takes two to tango. after all; passion and a rose between the teeth help too. But the concert also cast doubt, if not on Piazzolla per se, then at least on the advisability of spending a whole evening with Kremer's genteel interpretations of a popular music that



dirty, in Argentina's guiters. Piazzolla himself removed some of the tango's heat by with French refinement. Kremer's performances and arrangements cool the tango further. In his hands it becomes the perfect Post-Modern art form, all passion put in quotation marks, abandon reduced to neat string glissandos, beautifully judged but as predictable as lampposts.

Kremer's solo violin could do little; but his friends varied the tango's hesitating cadences with trills, scratches and little slaps to the woodwork. By the time of Five Sensations. however, even the most Post-Modern of tango fiends may have felt fatigue. Admirable musicianship, throughout; but for those not honked on the Piazzolla drug, a mildly depress-

GEOFF BROWN



XTC's time has come

NEW POP AL

KEW ALBUMS: 1

Karn whe

Meanwhile, back in Swindon ...

ied into a punitive con-tract with Virgin, XTC went on strike for six years. They downed tools - in their case, pastoral psychedelia, punchy, jungle-green pop and a pagan filt at English mo-res — in 1993, and haven't released a note since. Their leader, the lugubrious Andy Partridge, retreated to his terraced house in Swindon, battled through an acrimonious divorce, built a studio in the shed at the end of his garden and started working on an al-burn that he thought would never see the light of day.

The more cack got thrown at us - the more the blinding scumstorm of negativity came our way - the more I wrote, The more acid gets poured on my motor, the more volts my buttery has." Partridge says. He's balanced on the edge of his piano stool in his extraordinary parlour - the room is crammed with toy forts, wood-block etchings, dried herbs and naive pictures of huge fat farmyard pigs. It looks exactly as you'd expect the lead singer of XTC's home to look. He is. after all, one of the great British pop eccentrics.

"Some people would chew off their limbs to have these songs," he continues, correctly. "But I'm left with this longing for benerment, I need to murder those who influenced me. There are some big ghosts I still can't get rid of." He takes a sip of his almond tea. "Ray Davies just will not get out of my house. I have to kill Ray. I have to bludgeon Brian Wilson to death. If not kill, I certainly have to squeeze Burt Bacharach by the nuts.

"McCartney, I want to re-duce to soya mince; and Lennon - well, unfortunately, someone's already done the job for me with Lennon.

"Apparently." he says. twinkling over his specs. "there's a fellow on the Internet who claims I killed Len-

Having inspired a whole generation of Britpop artists -Blur, in particular, were up to

Andy Partridge has called off XTC's six-year strike, Caitlin Moran reports

their neck in debt to XTC during their Parklife days — Par-tridge and Co were finally released from their Virgin con-tract in 1995, and Apple Venus Volume 1. their first album in seven years, is out this week. And it's a stormer: XTC are still at least five years ahead of

The first track is as awesome as you'd imagine a song called River of Orchids should be: a world-sized bank of syn-copated pizzicato violins, offset by Partridge's yelps and moans. Easter Theatre continues his obsession with birth and decay, and comes across like Vaughan Williams scoring the creation of a new world; while Greenman sounds like the last scene in a film set on another planet, where the jungle-creatures prepare a victory feast after the enemy has been blown to pieces



Andy Partridge "I have to

"Oh no! You accuse me of writing the Ewok National Anthem!" Partridge yelps, in obvi-ous distress, "Please, no! I've had a lot of people accuse that track of being very Arabic, but it's very pagan, very English. There's a slight dromedary whiff about the percussion, admittedly; but it goes no further east than Norwich. And no Ewoks were involved."

Asked what kept him going through his self-enforced six-year lay off, Partridge comes back to his childhood heroes once again.

"I just want to outdo all these people who caused me to became trapped in this weird ideas world where all my ideas want to come out in music. It was never this way when I was a child. I didn't know whether I wanted to be an ar-chitect or a kite-maker or a bullet-biter or a painter; I just felt like an ideas person. But now I feel like 1 m on these hot rails to Hades, where the orifice I've grown is a songwriting orifice that won't heal over."

Partridge was ten when the Beatles came along; and, as with every other member of his generation, his DNA was instantly altered. "I was there in my duffel coat and my shorts, thinking, 'Shall I scream? Girls scream. Some of the boys are screaming. Oh God, I don't know whether boys are supposed to scream at other boys or not." He settled for "grinding my knees to-gether earnestly". He cultivat-ed a Brian Wilson puddingbowl haircut which, to pre-serve its geometry, he would cup in his hands as he slept.

"I just think everything to do with music is magic." he beams, twirling round and round on his piano stool. "And that was the awful thing about the whole Virgin strike. It wasn't so much the money. But it was the awful silence that got to me - that they'd stopped me from casting my spells on people. As long as I can be Merlin, I'm happy." ● Apple Venus Volume 1 is out

HMV



Straight outta Cwmaman: After 11 months on the road, Stereophonics are glad to get home to mid-Glamorgan - "It's cheaper than therapy"

Pride of our valley

Stereophonics are the great Welsh hope of Brit rock. ast week's Grammy Awards were a merci less indictment of the But, Paul Sexton asks, can they win over America? enfeebled powers of seems ideally suited to a transatlantic crossing must be Sterewere not there for you. After ophonics. Also signed to V2, that, you get a lot more confithe trio from Cwmaman in dence." Enough for some quiet South Wales have risen

This week, the band trou-

sered their latest Top Five hit,

Just Looking, outselling Cher

in the process and neatly tee-

ing up next week's release of

an assured second album, Per-

formance and Cocktails, that

looks set for an unlikely head-

to-head with bobbysoxin' Brit-ney Spears for British chart su-

The album consolidates the

premier division place they au-

daciously snatched with its

predecessor, 1997's Word Gets

Around, which has now

clocked an aggregate of almost

a year among our bestsellers. After a 1998 Best British New-

comer gong at the Brits and a mighty performance in front

of 10,000 fans at Cardiff Castle

last summer, Stereophonics

last week booked an even

British popular music as seen through American eyes. On a night at which the Brits were in the sort of form we showed at the Boston Tea Party, only a few of our senior rock citizens & Plant rescued us from total whitewash, and it was up to young whippersnappers like Elvis Costello to represent our youth policy. down for the third time.

Twisting the knife still deeper, the current issue of Billboard magazine trumpets the countrywide revival of that old devil called rock as a viable force on the American scene. The story celebrates the big numbers now being returned on the Billboard 200 album chart by such bright young guitar-bearers as Goo Goo Dolls. Creed, Limp Bizkit and Everclear, as well as genre staples like Metallica, Hole and Korn.

Nary a Brit among them, and the tale on American rock radio is almost as grim. For even a whiff of respectability on Billboard's Modern Rock Tracks airplay chart, we have to grasp at the shirt-tails of such acis as Garbage and Placebo, who are not so much Brits as, well, Brit-ish. The only glimmer of hope seems to come in the superior grooves of Fatboy Slim and the technorock stylings of V2 label newcomers Tin Star, now gracing playlists with their song

But among those British outfits that know one end of an axe from another, the one that

confidence that their particuwith inexorable purpose in the tion and inspiration will win past two years, bringing a rauthem a foothold on the daunting peaks of the American cous individualism to a guitarbass-drums configuration that many thought was going

range.
"We toured for five weeks in

In Italy I had to draw a map. to show where Wales was, And Cardiff is full of Italians ⁵

America last time, and it was hard work. Some of the drives were about 24 hours and you can't get off the bus," says Jones. You go over there, and you see the Prodigy, and Oasis a little bit, but you listen to the radio, and it's like Smashing Pumpkins, Foo Fighters, Green Day, the same songs all

grander day out, at Swansea's Morfa Stadium in July, and promptly sold 20,000 tickets in "But we had some good shows. We played the Viper "The Cardiff show was the first time we'd seen 10,000 peo-Room in LA, and San Francisco and Boston were really ple there to see us," says the good. The new record comes lead singer. Kelly Jones. "Beout there in September, so the

to get a decent plan together. We'll put in the effort if it will." From a Welsh village to the American heartland would be another giant leap for Stereomany of those since the trio became playground friends. Jones and Stuart Cable, the drummer, played together in bands even as pre-teens, add-ing bassist Richard Jones (no relation) and serving the statu-

tory sentence grinding out covers in working men's clubs. "I was 12. Stuart was 15 or 16, there were five of us in the band and none of us wanted to sing," says the personable Kel-ly. "Because my old man was in a band, it was assumed that I would have to be the singer. Up until 15, you're afraid to sing properly because you think someone's listening. Then you realise they are lis-

tening, so you sing properly. Stuart went into a glam band, I went into REO Speedwagon or something. Richard came in, he'd never played in a band before. We started doing covers of Neil Young and Bob Dylan, started listening to some decent music and then

we started writing,"
Stereophonics signed to V2
in the summer of 1996, and while it was soon clear that they would form part of the new Welsh spearhead, inevitably being coupled in "trend" stories with the Manics and Catatonia, they never lorded it

ionable it may be, but their home is still in those showbizfree, green pastures of Glamor-

gan.
"Tve been pretty much every-fones, "and where now," says Jones, "and the cities are great, but when you're brought up in the country, in a small village, you get the best of both worlds. We're months of the year, and you appreciate it so much more when you're away. It's cheaper than therapy. I moved a mile down the road, and I've got to move back, it's that ridiculous."

Nor has Jones's head been turned by a more than attractive offer he received recently from Baz Luhrmann, director of such lauded films as Romeo + Juliet. "Apparently he'd seen me on a video in America and asked his casting director to try and track me down to do an audition for a leading part. But I don't think I could act, I don't think it's appropriate at the moment. Great offer, but

I'd rather write a screenplay." In any case, the road is call-Ing again, and on their endless travels Stereophonics will take the opportunity to advertise the red dragon. "A taxi driver picked us up in Germany the other day. He said, Where are you from? and we said Wales. He said, 'Ah, Richard Burton.' the Valleys, and we were like, 'Bloody hell'. But in Italy, I had to draw a map for a girl to show her where Wales was. And Cardiff is full of Italians."

 Performance and Cocktails is released by V2 on Monday, Stereo-phonics tour Britain from April 15-May 2, and play Morfa Stadi-

HMV !









CAMELSPOTTING VARIOUS ARTISTS

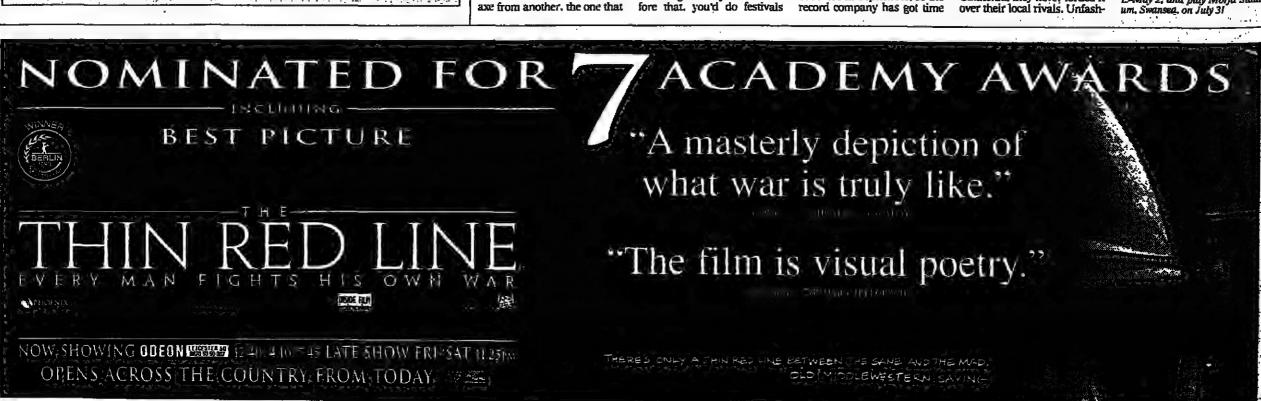


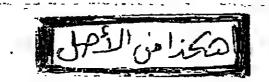
GEDIDA NATACHA ATLAS combine to make this her most accessible

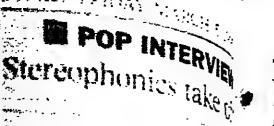
TEARS OF STONE THE CHIEFTAINS

Sinead O'Cormon, The Coms and John Matchell plus many other brilliant female









MEW POP ALBUMS

Kula Shaker revitalised

ARTS

المكناس الأجل

TOMORROW

Top gigs listed in Metro

NEW ALBUMS: David Sinclair on Kula Shaker's second album; plus, right, Nigel Williamson sees them in action

Karmic wheel of cool

Peasants, Pigs & Astronauts (Columbia SHAKER2CD

HAVING emerged from the shaky aftermath of their million-selling debut album, K, with a renewed sense of purpose, Kula Shaker return to the fray with Peasants, Pigs & Astronauts, an album which should surely lift them above the "Is it real or is it retro?" debate. Even those who derided the band's use of Indian instruments and Sanskrit lyrics may be surprised at how well those influences have been incorporated on tracks such as Namnmi Nanda-nandana and Radhe Radhe, the latter sung by guest vocalist Gouri Choudhuryan against a joyful combination of Krishna-like chant-

ing and mambo homs. On the minus side, Crispian Mills does not exactly help the band's cause with lyrics that are once again freighted with all sorts of cosmic mumbojumbo. You're a wizard in a blizzard," he yelps meaning-lessly in Mystical Machine Gun, while in Great Hosannah he raves about prophets rising to greet "a new world". But this is still an impres-

sive effort, and tracks such as SOS, 108 Battles and Sound of Drums bristle with a selfconfident energy that renders them impervious to complaints from those who think they have heard it all before.

Back On Top' (pointblank/Virgin VPBCD50

THERE IS only a thin line between an average Van Morri-son album and one where his genius truly sparkles. The fa-

miliar ingredients are always there the gruff voice, the gorgeous horn parts, the lyrics as evocative as mottled simlight on an autumn day. But in keeping with its bullish title, Back On Top offers something more, making it Morrison's most engaging album since Days Like These in 1993.

It begins with Goin' Down Genevo, a sublimely casual, 12-bar blues that sets a rough-er tone than that of his recent work Along with a buoyant pi-ano break by Geraint Watkins, the number boasts the first full-blooded guitar solo (from Mick Green) on a Morrison album in recent memory.

From there the singer, aided throughout by the superb harmonies of Brian Kennedy, proceeds down a familiar route, but with a distinct spring in his step. What do you do when you get to the top and there's nowhere to go? he ponders on the title track, a question which seems redundant in the context of such a superlative, minor-key shuffle as this.

If Morrison seems to be treading water on one or two of the slower numbers, the level of commitment in the per-

UK Top 40: Radio 1. Sunday 4pm



The comeback kids: Kula Shaker have shrugged off accusations of cultural opportunism and retro obsessions on Peasants, Pigs and Astronauts much of the undoubted melo-

drama of the title track de-

formances never falters. And when he strikes out on the melancholy narrative of High Summer and the swinging, Sam Cooke-influenced Preclous Time, the mica flashes as brightly as it ever has.

BRITNEY SPEARS ... Baby One More Time (Five 0522172 £15.99)

IT IS easy to snigger at all that "girl power" rhetoric which the Spice Girls brought to pop, but at least with groups such as them and All Saints you feel as if the singers are calling the shots in their sones. With American teen phe-

nomenon Britney Spears, whose debut album has been written for her, Tin Pan Alley-

style, by various bespoke pop songwriters, there is a return to the formulaic RnB melodies and supine sentiments of a previous generation. "I don't know how to live without your love," she simpers on Born to

pends on the repeated injunc-tion to "Hit me", diplomatical-ly concealed by the three little does in the title. Still, by hanging on for a sec-

TOP TEN ALBUMS

Lauryn Hill (Columbia)
Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)
Manic Street Preachers (Epic

• Figure in brackets indicates last week's position

gles chart, Spears has brought a welcome sense of perspective to Blur's perfectly pleasant new record, which could only manage a berth at No 2.

SHAWN MULLINS Soul's Core (SMG/Columbia CK 69637

THESE days it is an amazing feat to get an artist like Shawn Mullins off the ground in this country. But with his current single, Lullabye, in the Top

CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

ula Shaker took over the tiny basement that is the IOO Club in Oxclub dates in advance of their full British tour. Three years ago the band's debut album, K, unveiled a heady.

Mystical

musical

mash

patchouli-laden mix of 1960s psychedelic pop that sounded as if the Beatles were still hang-ing out with the Maharishi and Syd Barrett had never left Pink Floyd. It appealed to old hippies and young ravers alike, entered the album chart at No I and won a Brit award. The band's leader, Crispian Mills, immediately became a media darling, feted not least because of his theatrical connections as the son of Hayley Mills and grandson of Sir John Mills.

Yet the backlash was swift. Mills did himself no favours with some ill-advised comments ('Hitler knew a lot more than he made out") and suddenly the band were receiving the cold shoulder, widely denounced as phoney purveyors of pseudo-mystical mum-bo-jumbo. So their second al-bum, Peasants, Pigs & Astronauts (see review, left) finds them at a crunch point in their short career.

On this showing they re-main stuck steadfastly in some rose-tinted vision of the 1960s hippie idyll. To their fans they are cosmic visionaries, to their detractors merely sad, middleclass copycats and this tour is not going to change minds either way. The material from the new album, such as SOS and Mystical Machine Gun, was washed in the same psychedelic primary colours as the hit singles from the first al-

Ten, the former soldier from

Atlanta, who started out sell-

ing his self-financed record-

ings from a van, is the excep-

tion that proves the rule.

Soul's Core is an album

steeped in the authentic image-

ry and ultra-sincere emotions

that form the backbone of tra-

ditional American folk-rock

songwriting. "My Grandad-

dy's hands are worn/From 50

years of growin' corn/Back be-

hind the house where I was

born," he mumbles in Bailad

of Billy Jo McKay, sounding

like a cross between Robbie

Robertson and Lou Reed at

their most lugubrious. It is fine stuff of its kind, but may

prove too heavily concentrated

for modern British tastes.

bum. Hey Dude and Govinda. What saves the band from mere pastiche is Mills, who was a charismatic showman. despite some incomprehensible ranting about the signifi-

cance of it being a full moon. Apparently he likes to consult his astrological chart before making a move. On this night, at least, the stars must have been twinkling benignly.

THE SEE TIMES

LENNY WHITE

(Hip Bop HIBD 8019) IF drummer Lenny White's mission is to prove that funk can embrace as rich a variety of rhythms, sounds and textures as its smooty cousin jazz, he succeeds triumphantly on this immediately appealing yet subily crafted album. The opening track, Raiders in the Temple of Boom, sounds like an escape from a late Miles Davis album, while the treacty

of Bennie Maupin recalls Bitches Brew. Led Zeppelin's Kashmir is intriguingly filtered through a Sly Stone-like arrangement; rap, fusion, and even the odd scrap of straightahead jazz are also thrown into the mix, plus samples of everything from Bulgarian choirs to African traditional music.

With a stellar band - Patrice Rushen, Foley McCreary, Victor Bailey and Danny

funky

JAZZ ALBUMS

Walsh are all involved - and White's meticulous produc-tion, this is a classy album that should appeal even to the hith-erto funk-allergic.

TONY REMY'S BLUE Jammin' at the 12 Bar Club

(Alltone ALTRO02) EVER since the mid-1980s. when guitarist Tony Remy was playing with Desperately Seeking Fusion, those impressed by the fluidity and vis-

on top form

HMV EXCLUSIVE

BUY VAN MORRISON - BACK ON TOP AND GET A FREE EIGHT TRACK POINTBLANK BLUES CD SAMPLER *

ceral impact of his live sound have found it difficult; on the Last of evidence of his records, to con-vince the sceptical that he is among Britain's most exciting soloists on any instrument.
The release of these seven live bluesy jams should made their task a great deal easier. Of the album's 70-plus min-

utes, more than an hour is devoted to Remy's inexhaustibly inventive guitar, from blister-ingly eloquent 12-bar blues to fierce, punchy funk, bringing to mind not only rock icons such as Hendrix but also later. jazzier players such as Mike Stern and John Scofield. With support from drummer. Pete Lewinson and a selection of bassists, plus the occasional sweetly agile solo from saxophonist Jean Toussaint, this is, in Remy's words, his chance to "get up and wall, and worry about it next time round".

CHRIS PARKER

VAN MORRISON

BACK ON TOP

Two years after his last studio album

his brand new album Back On Ton.

Recorded at The Wool Hall in Bath with

a band including Van statwarts Brian

Kennedy, Flachra Trench, Pee Wee Ellis

and Katie Kissoon, together with

Mick Green (guitar), Gerraint Watkins

(Hammond), Ian Jennings (double bass)

and Bobby Irwin (drums). With its

potsier, more blusey feel, Back On Top

is a real return to form.

RELEASED 8TH MARCH

he Heating Game, Vain Morrison delivers

from Jackson, Mississippi, is one of the last of the independent record companies that have helped to shape America's musical tastes. It has kept its independence not by chasing pop glory - only three of its records have ever made the American Top Ten - but by concentrating on the market it knows best: contemporary Southern rhythm and blues,

BLUES ALBUMS

find it. Another independent, the

New York-based Roulette label, is the subject of box set issued by Westside, The Roulette Story (WESX305). Roulette covered everything from jazz, through R&B and rockabilly to soul and pop. This three-CD collection offers an entertaining run through its output, taking in such gerns as Jimmy Lloyd's Rocket In My Pocket, English Country Garden by Jimmie Rodgers, Count Basie's immaculate Little Darlin' and San Francisco Bay Blues by the Au Go Go Singers, a folk group which in-cluded a young Stephen Stills in its line up.

JOHN CLARKE

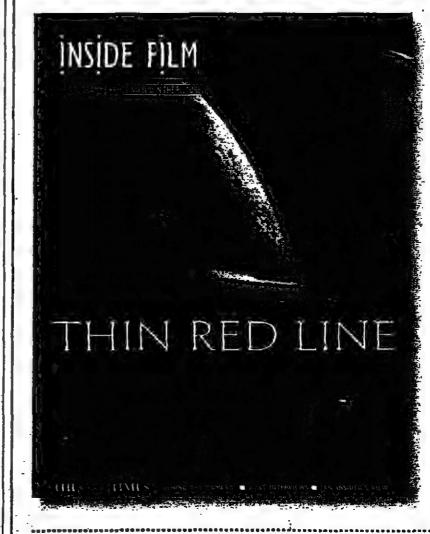
the soul brokers

soul and gospel.
The six-CD box set The Last

Soul Company (Malaco MCD30) celebrates the work of the company which "makes black music for black people". The label enjoyed its first big success in 1970 with an infectious dance record called Groove Me, by New Orleans singer King Floyd. That was followed by another dance smash, Jean Knight's Mr Big Stuff. Then, as the company grew, came country-influenced soul singers such as Dorothy Moore, established soul stars such as ZZ Hill and Ben-

use vocals of Denise La-Salle, whose raunchy Your Husband Is Cheating On Us is one of the set's highlights. If there's a place for authentic soul in the modern music marketplace, then this corner of Mississippi is still the place to

FREE INSIDE THE THIN DED LINE



REE inside your *Times* today you will find Inside Film, a programme for The Thin Red Line. Inside Film is handed out at no extra charge when you go to the cinema. It contains actor and crew biographies, stories about the making of the film, anecdotes that bring the film to life and inside information which readers who have just watched the film will enjoy. If you have not yet seen Terrence Malick's masterpiece, Inside Film will prepare you to witness one of the fiercest confrontations of the century, between Japanese and American soldiers, the battle of Guadalcanal Island.

FREE IN THE TIMES TODAY

CHANGING TIMES



valley

TENET IL

FT's German challenge

Germany's press faces a shake-up with the launch of a new business daily. Report by Sigrid Aufterbeck

rith the Financial Times about to enter the German marketplace, business publithere are bracing for a shake-up. The FT this week announced plans to launch a German-language business and financial daily in partnership with Gruner+Jahr, the newspaper and maga-zine wing of Bertelsmann. The £60-million joint-venture

company is working under the banner "Facts & Figures GmbH" until a title for the paper is agreed. Andrew Gowers, deputy editor of the FT in London, is editorial director of the new company, with Michael Rzesnitzek of G+J in charge of mar-

keting and management.
The "German FT" — the launch is expected late this year - will print on the characteristic salmoncoloured paper and a comprehensive online version will be available. An editorial team of about 100 - mostly based in Hamburg - will produce the paper, with access to articles from the FT's global network of correspondents. The sales target is 150,000, the break-even schedule

is three years. It is an ambitious project: the first new daily to enter the German market for 20 years will challenge two heavyweights: Handelsblatt and the Frankfurter Aligemeine Zeitung. The former is Germany's monopolist business daily with sales of 160,000; the Frankfurt paper is a national daily boasting authoritative business and finance sec-tions which sells 400,000 copies.

Both papers are gearing up for the imminent circulation battle. Frankfurter — based in euroland's financial centre — launched an extra finance section in January and



Fistful of deutschemarks: the Financial Times hopes to carve a niche for itself in a German market that boasts £23 billion in advertising revenue

introduced an FT-style Lex column. Its financial expertise received a boost when staff from its now defunct stablemate, Blick durch die Wirtschaft, were incorporated into

Frankfurter last year.

Handelsblatt is now recruiting to bolster its editorial team of 175. fearing that the new FT may poach its staff. The paper has improved its layout and introduced features and analysis pages as well as devoting more space to personal finance.

Gowers believes that there is enough room in the rapidly growing business media market for all three publications: "This market is growing faster than the papers."

The FT strategy is to find a niche

by combining "the authority of traditional German newspapers with the investigative and story-breaking culture of German business magazines". The German dailies suffer from the perception that they are dull and act as obedient vehicles for the reporting of corporate success, leaving critique and scoops to the magazines. Ironically, as the German corporate world has become increasingly multinational, business journalists covering this

changing landscape have remained

insular: all titles are in German

hands, mostly addressing a Ger-

man readership. Business and financial journalism has boomed in the past few years. Previously, Germans had showed little interest in personal finance - only this decade did they start to plunder their savings accounts and shift to more modern forms of investment. First to take advantage of this were the maga-

zines. New titles such as Börse On-

line and Impulse were launched. while existing titles such as Capi-

tal, Wirtschaftswoche and Manag-er Magazin flourished.

The newspaper market was different: there were no new players but all the dailies — notably Die Welt and Süddeutsche Zeitung upgraded their business coverage because it was this section that was pulling in the largest advertising revenue. In 1998, the national dailies increased their advertising revenue by 11.8 per cent, according to the association of German newspaper publishers. It is not surprising

that Pearson, which owns the FT, is eyeing a share of this DM6.9 billion (E2.34 billion) in revenue.

The European edition of the FT, printed in Frankfurt since 1979, has seen its sales climb to 22,000 in Germany, but further large gains seem unlikely as Germans remain reluctant to read English.

In G+J, the FT group has found

BT lines up a new image THERE has been much postur- ny, but as a business partner in

Stefano

Hattield

ing in adland over the past two weeks as to which agency has won what accounts in the great BT pitch bonanza. Newspaper business sections have bandled about fantastic spend figures with scant regard to the truth, common sense, competitor activity or basic mathematics.

However, with this week's award of the £5 million youth advertising account to Labour's favourite trendy advertising cooperative, St Luke's, BT's new line-up of agencies is complete.

Abbott Mead Vickers BBDO,

Britain's largest agency, had the most to lose, holding most of the account over the past three years. BT went into the pitch intending to spread a workload that had become onerous for any one agency to profitably. Abbott Mead retained the most significant chunk of the business, the £60 million domestic con-

sumer account. This includes call stimulation, the task that over the past two decades has brought us Beattie and As we know, the "it's good to

talk" ads are set to disappear after five years, as that task (getting people, particularly men, to use the phone more and for longer) appears to have been met. Today, the first problem is

how to reverse BT's long-term decline in market share in the face of competition from cable operators.

M&C Saatchi, Maurice Saatchi's agency, emerged as the primary beneficiary of the review process. It won the E10 million business-to-business communications account with a brief that involves promoting BT as more than a supplier of telephothe digital age. The win is a coup for M & C Saatchi. And it's vital to BT's management that this campaign succeeds. Business-tobusiness is about corporate confidence, shrugging off an old-fash-ioned image and, almost as important, cracking the insecurity of BT's management.

The rest of the line-up is completed by St Luke's, and Ammira-ti Puris Lintas, which has been taken on for special projects.

The first new Abbott Mead campaign is expected next month. BT has a good advertising track record. There

is no reason to sug-gest that this will change given the quality of agency line-up.

■ NEWS this week

of Adam Lury's retirement from advertising at the age of 42. pause for thought. Lury is one of the five co-founders of HHCL & Partners,

the agency born in 1987 that went on to be the most controversial, pretentious, clever and byped of the 1990s. As planning director, Lury was the brain behind such campaigns as the launch of First Direct bank, the turnaround of Britvie's Tango brand and the

repositioning of the AA as the fourth emergency service". Lury's belief that the conventions by which advertising was created could be challenged to allow clients more access is now almost universal industry practice. His championing of strategic media buying, and his belief that advertising did not have to patronise the consumer, have also been greatly influen-tial. He will be missed.

Stefano Hatfield is the Editor

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an ambitious parmer. It already owns the business magazines Capi-

tal. Impulse and Borse Online.

G+J's interest in joining forces with the FT is no doubt heightened by

the fact that it has no major daily in

its stable - its revamp of Berliner

Zeitung has yet to enjoy success.

Andrew Gowers will relish the

challenge on his hands. After a suc-

cessful year as acting editor of the

FT while Richard Lambert was in

America, he found little appeal in re-

But already some German ana-

lysts are pointing to a possible weak link. "Gowers will find it difficult to

hire enough talented journalists," says Peter Turi, Editor of Kress-Re-

port, a media gossip publication. Gowers is headhunting writers but

he has yet to reveal any "big

names" - writers who would serve

to attract further quality personnel.

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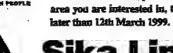
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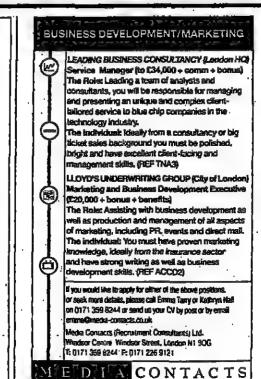


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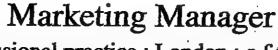
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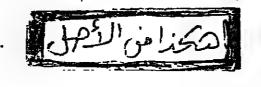


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THE TIMES FROM WAS

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المرسوات والأمام الراب Charles and the 200

most popular football website, Soccernet, and Hadfield also owns Schools-Net, a virtual school on the Web. Four years ago, when he was 11, Tom started a Saturday night soccer results website from his home in Brighton. Now it is owned by the Daily Mail and is one of the world's top 50 websites. He will be a millionaire before he leaves university. Success and fortune couldn't come to a nicer family and the exhilarating story of the Hadfields should be studied by every editor who

worries about the "threat" from the Net. That worry surfaced this week when a colleague on the sports desk, who had suddenly realised that football fans could get reports of matches on the Net within an hour of the final whistle, asked why any of them should bother to

buy a Sunday or Monday newspaper. By 7pm on Saturday nights Soccernet is running Mail on Sunday match reports, and there are also reports on indi-vidual club websites. On Wednesday night about 100.000 Manchester United fans around the world got a 1,700-word running commentary on Soccernet, as well as the results of the other European matches. Yesterday it was receiving 300 votes an hour on who would win the Champions League. Why bother going to a newspaper Internet site for sport?

With the Internet, says Observer coluronist John Naughton, we have hitched a ride on a rocket and none of us has any clue where it is headed. None of the newspaper Internet gurus would quarrel with that assessment. What they do believe, sincerely, is that newspapers

have got to be astrice the rocket. Hadfield, who worked on Today. The Sunday Times. Daily Mail and Sunday Express and loves newspapers, has been depressed by the Little Englander lack of enterprise shown by British newspaper groups. They have been so rejuctant to embrace new media that they have missed an opportunity to become global players. They will soon be exposed to American conglomerates who will be

Police press officers face pressures to provide both more information and less, says Stewart Tendler ly, no force is without its memits that even in the Met, only He says that tighter controls en-

Sir Paul Condon managed to keep his job, to the unspoken relief of the Yard press office, despite the furore arising from the Stephen Lawrence report

dia unit, and responsibility for bruised but Sir Paul Condon is them has gradually passed still in charge. The damage from senior police officers to

s the Stephen Law-rence report finally

slips down Fleet

A Street's news schedules, Scotland Yard press offic-

ers are breathing a sigh of re-

lief. The Met has been badly

senior press officer this week.

es has recently come under

hard to obtain information

and that responses to queries

are slow. Press officers argue

that they are constrained by

the nature of police work. But

Scotland Yard has nonetheless

increased its emphasis on

press relations, now a

70-strong department with 30

press officers and an annual

budget of £6 million. National-

7 hen I first knew Greg Had-

News, fresh from Oxford, with obvious

talent and a baby son who was a compu-

ter freak when he was just out of nap-

pies. Fifteen years later, Hadfield and

Tom, that baby son, run the world's

field he was a young reporter on The Western Morning

The role of police press offic-

could have been much worse. media managers.

The units offer a daily diet of crime stories and traffic acd-Organising press relations for Britain's 54 police forces and national squads must ofdents for newspapers, radio stations and television: The ten seem like occupying that proverbial spot between a rock ereatest focus of media attenand a hard place. "The journaltion is the Yard, which hanists think we are holding back. dies about 25,000 calis each The police think we are too year to its 24-hour press buclose to reporters," sighed one reau. Yet in many county forces, press offices are less responsive to media demands, They. close at 5pm, and press officers increasing scrutiny. Journalists complain that it is often are rarely contactable at night

Such reluctance to maintain. the flow of information reflects a longstanding paranoia about the press among police - although Dick Fedorcio, the head of the Met's press and publicity operation, argues that other organisations are equally cautious. He advocates a better rapport between the press and press officers but adabout a third of officers are comfortable with the media.

The idea of openness towards the media also sits uneasily with the view of many modern chief constables, versed in the latest management theories that dictate that forces should speak with one corporate voice to the press, as commerical companies do.

tried to tighten their connot always successfully, since by using personal contacts. The Yard has also been accused of using the drive against corruption to curtail such contacts - a charge it stoutly denies.

According to Chester Stern, the president of the Crime Reporters' Association, trying to gag officers will encourage rather than halt corruption. courage an underground market for information, funded by less scrupulous newspapers. Last year, for example, there

were reports that £35,000 was being offered for a picture of a particular notorious paedophile in a police cell. Meanwhile, police press officers face the prospect of further restrictions arising from

the legal constraints on inforn recent years, forces mation concerning a crime including the Yard have For example, forces are currently split over when to identify suspects who have been. charged. The Yard identifies her name is on the charge sheet. Other forces refuse to do

so until the suspect is in court. Fresh restrictions on basic information are also on the horizon. For instance, new European legislation could prevent officers from releasing

details of accident victims. Until a few years ago, forces briefed reporters about cases

Spinning a thin blue line? under an embargo, so that the latter could write background articles in preparation for con-victions. But defence lawyers claimed there was a risk of contempt of court, and almost all forces now refuse to brief jour-

nalists about a case until the jury has gone out.

Despite such increasing legal fetters, chief constables still agree that for better or worse, they must live with the press and improve relations although there is now at least one alternative which is cheap and offers links to the public

unfiltered by journalists. US forces make wide use of the Internet, and British forces are showing increasing interest. The Yard's site now draws 40,000 people a month. And Lawrence report, of course.

News at Ten hangs on to its good name

WHY is ITN so determined to prevent Sky News using the title News at Ten? Answer: it wants to start a 24-hour news channel soon and could then resurrect its most famous brand.

The biggest applause at its wake on Wednesday came when Sir David Nicholas, former ITN editor, said: "I can't find it in my heart to cheer the end of News at Ten." Just as well the party

was shunned (in favour of football) the executives who wielded knife, Meanwhile, ponder this 6.9 million tuned in for News at Ten's Ugandan murders reports.

AS ITV forces out news to the margins, I note that its new line-up contains no information about when the weekly "tabloid" replacement for World in Action, called Tonight, will launch. With such big names as Trevor McDonald and Martin Bashir on board, it was supposed to start the same week as the 6.30pm ITV news. Having seen drafts of the new programme, I'm not surprised. There have been reports of tensions about tacky content. It clearly isn't

WHILE former chairman of the BBC Lord Hussey was attacking Sir John Birt's crushing impact on the BBC, Jenny Abramsky, never as fully a paid-up Birtist as her predecessor Matthew Bannister, felt bold enough to do her bit at the Broadcasting Press Guild. Within the BBC we got too hung up on structures," she said. Arriving back at BBC Radio post-Bannister was "like going into an atmosphere where a messy divorce had taken place and giving marriage guidance". Meanwhile, Michael Jackson, chief execu-

firmed he is out of the race for Director-General of the BBC by providing written guarantees to his board that he will not apply for the job.

HUGE sighs of relief among British comedy makers. ITV's desperate attempt to revive the genre, by asking top US experts Carsey Werner to make Days Like These for it in Britain, has pro-duced another flop. The

series has only been sched-

uled up to March 15. Paul

Jackson, the BBC's head of

entertainment, says: "It goes

to prove that it's difficult pro-

ducing domestic comedy in

THIS week The Guar-

dian ran an odd piece from

former editor Peter Preston

about his difficulties in recruiting black and Asian journalists -- he totalled only

three - though his successor

of the past four years, Alan

Rusbridger, has done much

the UK at the moment."

to the kind of paper Preston ran. Working on The Guardian as I did in the 1980s was a dispiriting experience for anyone who wasn't male and Oxbridge 100. Shyama Perera, one of Preston's three. who had two stints trying to further herself before exiting in defeat in 1989, says: "As a black woman I was unskilled at playing the white,

male Oxbridge game, and they were certainly not queuing up to give me the rules." For a liberal

seemed odd. ■LAST week I wrote that reconstruc-

Stephen Lawrence murder performed poorly because it was broadcast a week too early. David Liddiment, ITV's director of programmes, says it was meant to coincide with the publication of the report but that came out later than expected. It was not a victim of a macho male scheduling game. But it illustrates how carefully crafted pro-grammes can fail to make an

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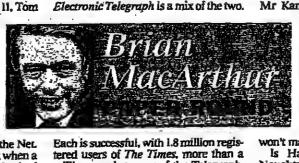
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That British conservatism is shown in

the vivid contrast between the Internet

editions of British and American news-

papers. Each British newspaper, more-over, has opted for a different strategy.

The Internet edition of The Times repro-

duces the total newspaper, but is devel-

oping micro sites; Guardian Unlimited

consists of micro sites with live news;

million regular users of the Telegraph. and 200,000 registrations within two months for The Guardian.

Americans, by contrast, are produc-ing dedicated Net newspapers. The Wall Street Journal has 60 reporters worldwide working 24 hours a day for its constantly updated Interactive Journal. It can be set up to deliver a personal profile of news and quotes and has separate entrances for America. Asia and Europe (wsje.com). On The New York Times site, news is updated every ten minutes. It offers a 365-day archive, a free library of 50,000 book reviews and exclusive Web reports on books and technology (nytimes.com)

Any first-rate daily newspaper without its own first-rate newswire would eventu-



On the ball: Soccernet on Wednesday

Facing the Net threat ally have to buy or build one, Peter Kann, the chairman of Dow Jones, which owns the Journal, gave warning this week. "Otherwise newspapers, which are so dis-tinctive every morning, will, on the Internet, become the same wire copy by the end of the day. That's the case with many newspapers on the Web today, which are the Daily Bugle by morning and the Associated Press by night."

Hadfield would agree with the drift of Mr Kann's comments. New media in Britain, he says, is often led either by staff who know something about new media but nothing about journalism, or by journalists who are ignorant of new media - and sometimes by technicians who know nothing about journalism at all. Defensive strategies intended to ring-fence the British mar-

ket won't work because they won't make money. Is Hadfield too pessimistic? John Naughton's iron law is that we always over-estimate the long-term impact of new technologies - and my own experience with Today in 1985-86 suggests that newspapers using new media can try to fly too high, too soon. British newspapers may be right to make haste slowly.

nternet editions are capturing young, promiscuous or overseas readers who don't or cannot buy newspapers and are establishing the attraction of a brand. By starting to publish Web links from important news stories, The Times becomes a search engine to the wealth of information on the Net. E-mail addresses at the end of columns have proved a remarkable success: after their recent columns on the euro in The Times, Mary Ann Sieghart and Anatole Kaletsky have been

swamped with up to a hundred e-mails. Few editors are complacent about the Net, but most also believe in Naughton's fron law. So, as the world explodes with information, they argue that newspa-pers must act as sieves, selecting ithe blend of information and entertainment that suits their brand. Newspapers and the Net can coexist. Yes, they might say, you can read Mail on Sunday match reports on Soccernet on Saturday nights, but Mail on Sunday sales are still up 43,000 on a year ago.

⊕ brian.macarthur@the-times.co.uk

A crisp approach to cable

Raymond Snoddy talks to Tony Illsey, the salted snacks man who turned telecoms evangelist

hese days, when you ring the headquarters of Telewest, one of the big three cable companies, an extraordinary thing happens. The call is answered quickly.

Cable companies such as Telewest have had a terrible reputation in the past for the service they have provided. "Just six months ago we were answering only 74 per cent of all calls received, and of those only 64 per cent were

answered within 30 seconds." says Tony Illsey, who came from running Walkers Crisps, a company that has won most of the marketing prizes going, to be chief ex-

ing. to be crief executive of Telewest. He was the first executive with top-notch marketing experience to take charge of a cable company. "Last month our total calls answered were well into 90 per cent, of which \$2 per cent were answered within 30 seconds," he says.

The transformation was achieved by focusing senior managers on the issue at a meeting every Tuesday when they knew the call numbers would be reviewed. "The whole team know their first priority is to make sure that they are not going to be embarrassed during that meeting," says Illsey, who often rings the

call centres pretending to be a member of the public. Apart from "crunching together" Telewest with General Cable and Birmingham Cable late last year, illsey says his priority has been to make basic things work.

There has been another change

There has been another change to the company during the chief executive's reign. When Illsey took over, his mother spent £200 on Telewest shares at 130p, the

first shares she had ever bought. They now stand at 270p. The difference is not entirely due to Mrs Ilisey's

son. The surge in the share of the telecommunications sector has pulled shares of cable companies up with them. Illsey has also taken over at a time when cable is being taken more seriously and the balance of power between the in-

dustry and its satellite rival BSkyB has been shifting its way. Five years ago, satellite dishes outnumbered cable connections by three to one. There were 2.5 million dishes against 800,000 cable TV subscriptions. By the end of last year, cable had added two million homes while satellite had added only one million.

Illsey, who can tell where anyone was brought up by the brand of crisps they eat, has high hopes



Cable boss Tony Illsey often rings Telewest call centres pretending to be a member of the public

many with regional differences.

There are four bag sizes for differ-

ent ages, sexes and occasions. And these items cost 25p or 50p."

Eighteen flavours may be too

many for cable, but last year, even

excluding the newly acquired com-

panies, Telewest added 170,000

homes. It now has 1.4 million sub-

scribers despite BT's "win back" campaign. "What they don't reveal is that they are still losing

to Telewest more telephone cus-

tomers than they claim to be win-

The chief executive plans to

introduce digital cable packages

at the end of this year. The launch

of SkyDigital and ONdigital, the

ning back," says Ilisey.

that the gap will be further eroded by the company's "millennium package". For £12.99 a month subscribers get a telephone line and 14 television channels, including the five terrestrial ones, as well as Sky One, Eurosport, the Cartoon Network and Sky News.

The package is already successful in such areas as Newcastle, and in the next few months it will be introduced to the General Cable franchises in London and Slough, and at Birmingham Cable. "It is the single biggest driver of the momentum now in the company," says Illsey, who became a management trainee with Colgate after doing a business degree.

He was five years in Japan for Pepsi, which he describes as life-changing. "I learnt the importance of having a vision for a business and communicating the hell out of it so that everyone knows exactly what it is about and what they have to do," he says.

Illisey wants to see maximum flexibility in services offered to customers. Soon after arriving he expressed surprise at the small attempt to segment the market and to understand customers' needs. "There are five types of Walkers Crisps," he says, "and 18 flavours," terrestrial service, have created, he believes, such awareness about pay television that cable will be able to take maximum advantage when it launches services such as fast Internet access.

Cable modems will, Illsey says, make the Internet available on

Cable modems will, Illsey says, make the Internet available on impulse, just like television. Above all, cable will be able to offer a range of services now becoming commercially feasible, such as video-on-demand — the ability to choose from a library of hundreds of feature films.

in America last week Illsey saw another possible cable offering, an electronic book that can store up to ten books at a time from an Internet site. "Where a novel might take 15 minutes to download over a phone line, it will take 15 seconds with a cable modern," says illsey. But that is a little way off yet. Before that is the battle to establish Telewest as the benchmark of customer service.

Wanted: heavy mettle PR

A RESOURCEFUL operator is being sought for one of the country's toughest PR assignments. PR Week reports that, after a run of poor publicity, the Diana Memorial Fund is hunting for its first in-house PR and communications head. Since it was established in September 1997, just after the Princess's death, the fund has been involved in rows over the high fees paid to its lawyers, the use of Diana's name on a low-fat spread and lottery scratch-card and, most recently, the dismissal of Paul Morrell, the Princess's former butler. A PR practitioner describes the job as "a bit of a poisoned chalice".

■ THE Advertising Association has warned the Government against allowing the Food Standards Agency to censor advertising, says Campaign. The AA is worried that the agency will be hijacked by healthy-

agency will be hijacke eating pressure groups bent on warning consumers off certain products. Unconvinced by assurances from Jeff Rooker, the minister responsible for food safety, the association is drawing up battle plans. "Commissing is not a tool for sesocial engineering," sa

up battle plans. "Commercial advertising is not a tool for social policy or social engineering," says Sara Price, the AA's head of public affairs.

■ THE BBC's first dedicated promotion for EastEnders will begin today, Marketing reports, with slots on all television and radio channels. The campaign has been masterminded by Maureen Duffy, who joined the BBC last year from J. Walter Thompson. It is part of an attempt to stem the drift of peak-time viewers from BBCl to ITV, which could accelerate next week when News at Ten disappears.

ESTHER RANTZEN, keen to remain untarnished by the row over fake talk-show guests, has written to Broadcast pointing out that her BBC2 programme has had no allegations made against it. She writes about "the positive good" achieved by tackling important subjects

through first-hand experiences. "We should recognise the strength and value of talk shows when they are well made," she says. THE LAUNCH PAD: Associated Newspapers delays launch of free London daily Metro to March 15 and cuts print run from 350,000 to 100,000; EMAP's new weekly Heathing: Mirror Group abandons plan to relaunch Sporting Life (Campaign). Mslexia, dedicated to women's writing, to launch on Monday; EMAP Elan plans new magazine edited by Sharon Ring, former editor of OKI (Press Gazette). Indefinite delay to launch of Crime Weekly by Cabal (Media Week).

■ GETTING THE BUSINESS: J. Waiter Thompson wins £15 million account for cable TV and telecoms

firm NTL; Publicis to handle E3 million campaign for McVitie's, introducing Jaffa Cakes in a rescalable tube; Lever Bros E1 million deal to sponsor ITV's Stars in Their Eyes.

promoting Radion washing powder (Marketing). Sega returns to former agency WCRS to launch new Dreamcast computer-games console: Mustoe Merriman Herring Levy wins £3 million account for Norwich Union investment fund: Fuji plans to appoint Wunderman Cato Johnson to £3 million account (Campaign).

ECHANGING FACES: Andy Zonfrillo, broadcast director at Leo Burnett, to be TV buying director for MindShare; Gerry Roads quits as European marketing director for Del Monte (Marketing Week). Documentary-maker Paul Watson leaves Granada for United Productions (Broadcast); Bates Dorlands account executive Adam Leigh promoted to deputy managing director (Campaign). Giles Pearman from Unilever to be Classic FM's first dedicated marketing manager (Media Week).

MICHAEL LEAPMAN



mettle PR

The state of the same (新) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) West with Bong in rett findsky filling grange

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AS THE ----4 -

Spine English Street AND THE PARTY OF T

প্রসূত্র ----

How much do they earn a year?



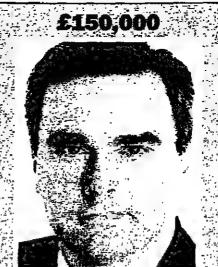


Alma Ford: Piogramme 1930 One (PSIcci Hews Amilianat 4 million (average) Sidis Jos (Mildan of both television new egol (Ballio 4's Today programme. Pin. up to many a man' in bis 40s. Pamousty throw



PETER SISSONS Programmes: see 1 million (average). e: EEC Nice O'Clock News. Style: BRC treasprintight with fine posigners. No fivolity, rapely smiles, not alraid to upset tils bosses, Attacked BBC for conducting a "beauty contest" to find newsreaders instead of increasing journalistic credibility

£200,000



IRIN EDWARDS me. From May, he will ancher the launched BBC SN O'Clock News Andlence: 5.9 million (average) Style: Alfable: laid-back Welshman rheally unknown to many viewers. Former from BBC's little watched News 24, 4.2

£500,000

As the battle of the news bulletins begins, the presenters are being turned into stars with salaries to match, says Carol Midgley onight, as Trevor McDonald utters his last "And finally...", and News at Ten is laid to rest, the pistol will sound for the fiercest ratings battle of 1999. Television news bulletins, once regarded as the dowdy sister of current-affairs

programmes and documentaries, will take centre stage as executives fight tooth and nail for the teatime news From Monday, the Six O'Clock News will be ambushed by ITV's spanking new ITV Evening News at 6.30pm. A week later Channel 5 will launch a more minor offensive by moving 5 News from 7pm to 6pm in the hope that the telegenic Kirsty Young will lure viewers away from the BBCs Welsh anchorman Huw Edwards.

The Nine O Clock News will remain much as it is, fronted by the heavyweights Peter Sissons and Michael Buerk. But the industry will be watching keenly to see how many viewers ITN's new ITV Nightly News will draw in at the late hour of Ilpm. ITV is hoping that the ratings will be helped by the fact that it is being presented by the rising stars of ITN: Dermot Murnaghan and Katie Derham.

The BBC is also nurturing a rising star, Huw Edwards, who was recently plucked from the obscurity of News 24 to the heady heights of presenting the new Six O Clock News this spring. The Six O Clock News relaunches on May 10 with the promise of a warmer, more informal bulletin with a dedicated "family" of specialists and correctors who the BBC houses will soon become as reporters who, the BBC hopes, will soon become as familiar to viewers as their living-room furniture.

xecutives at BBC news are irritated by the fact that other news programmes are now "crowding" around the hallowed spot of 6pm in the race for ratings. Their argument is that the viewer loses out as rival broadcasters limit the number of times a day that people can get news on terrestriai channeis. Only Channel 4 News appears to be keeping out of the

battle. Despite a relaunch this year, rumoured to have cost £3 million, which has resulted in a multicoloured studio and flashes of Jon Snow's socks as he sits behind a trendy, low-slung desk, it is staying at 7pm. However, much more than ratings is at stake. Broad-

casters want their news presenters, even their correspondents, to be stars. The successful newscaster of the future will be regarded as one who is recognised as readily as the mighty Trevor McDonald; their audience figures will be watched almost as keenly as the ratings for Coronation Street and EastEnders.

As the value of newscasters rises in the modern age, so will their salaries. The pay of newsreaders varies enormously, and usually reflects how many rival broadcasters have tried to poach them. The Times has conducted its own research into the current salaries of our leading newscasters, a notoriously secretive area.

We have been forced to rely on a number of unofficial briefings and anonymous sources, so apologies to those we may be under - or over - paying.

EE000.000 £180,000



PERMIT ANTHROLEGIAN

Programme: If Methor Michity News (Lipid),
Anthence, Lipidy to be 4 million.
Style: Handsome; approachable;
addingly: Adaptant that he is not trying to
stop the Matter (Econologistics). We will
are fining through the frevor Medicinale era
are fining through the frevor Medicinale.



e. Channel 4 News laudence: 800,000 (average). Style: Eccarine, alfable infeliectual with authoritative delivery. Fond of cycling. Pland these of Auria Fond. Causings Peter Show, god of the Swingameter. Broadswed his portiono with Monica Lewinsky interview.



KURSTY YOUNG Programme: 5 News euce: 350,000 (average) at 7pm. Style: Blonde, fragrant Scot, dubbed. thinking man's crumpet. Started a trend for land-track news presenting by perching delicately on the desk instead of sitting behind it. Inundated with offers from rivels.

Fighting for the viewers

Raviuona:

Thatever else you plan to do this evening, try to spare the time to take part in a small piece of broadcasting history, by watching the very last edition of News at Ten.

The decision by the Independent Television Commission (ITC) to allow the ITV companies to move the news and change the schedule was controversial for a day or so. But apart from the harrumphings of a few newspaper columnists bemoaning the death of public service broadcasting as we know it, the life went out of the row remarkably quickly. There were no marches to save News at Ten, although those responsible for its success will doubtless shed a well-lubricated tear tonight when the last bulletin is over at 10.30pm.

A postscript to the debate has been supplied today by Sir David Nicholas, the former chief executive of Independent Television News, in a letter to The Times. Much to his irritation, he has found out that one of the influential voices in the 7-3 majority in favour of killing off News at Ten was that of his old friend and rival Sir Michael Checkland. Sir Michael, now a member of the ITC, is the former Director-

General of the BBC. The publicity surrounding the move is still a little difficult to stomach — even for a relucthat television schedules cannot stay the same for ever. ITV couldn't quite manage to admit that the only point of the change is to show movies and dramas uninterrupted by the News at Ten and instead opted for humbug, claiming that "ITV News is Getting Better".

- as if that somehow was the

motive. From Monday. we will be able to judge for ourselves whether we are talking "better" or, much more likely, just commercial reality. What is certain is that the nature of the ratings battle for news is about to change in probably unpre-

Snoddy dictable ways. On Wednesday, ITN had a audience of 12.4 million for its two evening programmes - 4.7 million at 5.40pm and 7.7 million at 10pm. The BBC was hardly behind its rival - with 12.2 mil-lion - but with the peaks reversed; the Six O'Clock News pulling in 6.6 million and the Nine O'Clock News 4.6 mil-

The big battle will remain between ITV and BBC, although Sky News is trying to boost its ratings with a new high-profile presenters - will

dedicated news programme, Sky News at Ten O'Clock, which launches on Monday.

The problem for ITN will be to hold on to anything like a 12.4 million news audience after the disappearance of its flagship. What if Trevor Mc-Donald does really well at 6.30mm because he is a likeable chap and people know what he stands

for, and adds two million viewers to ITV's teatime total - raising its figures to about 6.7 million? Dermot Murnaghan would do well to attract a three million-plus audience to the lipm news. would Which mean, of course, that overall ITV could lose 25 million viewers.

The new regime will take a while to settle down and ITV figures could be poor until viewers get used to the new schedules. When they do, ITV could emerge victorious at teatime, while the BBC could gain considerably with the Nine O'Clock News, which is being given a free run between the Channel 4 News at 7pm and the new lipm news.

The nature of news agendas - as well as the impact of on the battle for viewers. A reatime agenda - domestic news with a popular touch - is likely to develop as a result of the bunching of bulletins around 6pm and 6.30pm. Channel 5 News is making its second

move, this time to 6pm. As a result, we might have to wait until 9pm or 11pm for serious news on the main channels. This offers an opportunity for the BBC with the "Nine" but, as usual, the Beeb seems to be taking a half-decent idea and treating it in too mechanistic a way. More foreign stories are fine, but on some evenings this week the top three stories have all been foreign - Uganda, Sierre Leone and Indonesia. By having too high a quota of foreign stories, the BBC could fail to take advantage of the opportunity presented on a plate by ITV.

Thanks are due to Lord Hussey of North Bradley, the former Chairman of the BBC, for implicitly backing my campaign, launched last week, to become Director-General of the BBC. In the Lords on Wednesday, he vigorously took up the attack on bloated policy units, overuse of management consultants and far too much money being spent on new digital channels. This is an entirely positive development. It is our licence fee money, after all.

AN FXCLUSIVE OFFER

WAKINGNED EXCLUSIVE PREVIEWS



Complimentary tickets @ 76 venues

his week The Times has teamed up with 20th Century Fox to offer readers the chance to see an exclusive preview screening of Waking Ned on Sunday morning, March 14 (exact times will be or the ticket). The film, a raucous modern fairy tale, was a surprise hit at the Cannes Film Festival and won rave reviews when it opened in America at Christmas. Inspired by a true story, Waking Ned follows the comic exploi of two friends as they stumble into a lottery scam of hilarious proportion For a FREE ticket, which admits two, collect five differently numbere

tokens, attach them to the completed voucher right and present them at the cinema box office of your choice, from those listed below before March 13. Tickets will be issued on a first-come firstserved basis. Waking Ned opens nationwide on March 19.

PARTICIPATING CINEMAS

UCI CINEMAS Basildon; Bracknell; Derby; Gatesbead; Hatfield; Lee Valley; Milton Keynes; Preston; Sheffield; Solfhulf; Surrey Quays, London SE1; Sutton; Tarmworth; Telford; Warrington; Whiteleys, London W2: Newcastle WALES Cardiff; Swansea

OKOSONI CENTENIAS Birmingham, Blackpook Bournamouth, Brighton, Bromborough, Chelmsford; Cheltenham; Colchester; Hernel Hempstead; Holloway, Hull; Kensington, London W8; Kettering; Leads; Leicester, Lincoln; Liverpool (Switch); Maldstone; Manchester, Mottingham; Romford; Sheffleld; Southend; Stoke on Trent; Streatham, London SW16; Taumton; Worcester, Tunbridge Wells, Coventry, Plymouth SCSTLABO Aberdson; Edinburgh; Glasgow

Quay, Kilmamock WALES Bridgend; Cartiff Capp; Wrexham WARNER CINEMAS Actor, Basingstoke, Bottor, Bristol, Bury, Cambridge, Croydon, Dagenham, Doncaster, Finchley, Harrow, Leeds, Leicester, Newcastle, Preston, Sheffield; Thurrock: Watford: York SCOTLAND Inverness

'	THE TIMES WAKING NED PREVIEW					
n t	For your free ticket, present this voucher, with five differently numbered tokens from <i>The Times</i> attached, to one of the participating cinemas before March 13.					
its	Title					
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Which one of the behaving age groups do you fall edo?

15-24 [25-34] 35-44] 45-54 [55-54] 55-54 [65-if you buy The Times, on which day(s) do you usually buy it?

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CHANGING TIMES

Daily Mail	2,020,00	630,064	11,530	1.9
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Belly Tolograph	1,039,840	1,103,813	34,969	3.3
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Express on Sunday		384,679	-895	-0.2
Financial Times	385,574	399,152	8,638	2.2
Guardian	390,514	219.549	1,160	0.5
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independent On Senday	249,846	2,291,247	9,741	0.4
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Missor	2,214,981	4,314,352	251,791	6.2
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	3,537,760	53,320	5,688	11.9
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Total Total and	505,520	1,371,869	66,280	51
Swedny Times	1.305,589	746,317	23,223	
			1.022.181	3.9

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ABG MONTH ON MONTH COMPARISONS

THE circulation of most national newspapers has fallen year on year for the six months to January 1999, with The Independent suffering the greatest loss - down 14.6 per cent to

The Financial Times was one of the titles to buck the trend, enjoying a 12.3 per cent increase in circulation. Other newspapers to increase their circulation year on year were the Daily Mail. The Mail on Sunday and The Sunday Times.

Month on month comparisons, however. paint a different picture of the national newspaper market, with all titles except the Financial Times showing increases in circulation for

Sport First, which launched last March, has enjoyed a 37.1 per cent increase on its launch circulation, reaching 84,378, substantially higher than that of Sunday Business, which hit the streets a month earlier.

 MediaTel's online media information and analysis service is accessed via the Internet at http://www.mediatel.co.uk/0171-439 7575).

House of Lords Demonstration not trespassory assembly

Director of Public Prosecutions v Jones and Another Refore Lord Irvine of Laire, Lord Chancellor, Lord Slynn of Hadley,

Lord Hope of Craighead. Lord Clyde and Lord Hutton [Speeches March 4]

A peaceful, non-obstructive assembly of 21 persons on the verge of the A344 at Stonehenge, found by the trial court to have been a reasonable use of the highway, had not been a trespassory assembly with-in sections 14A and 14B(2) of the Public Order Act 1986, as inserted by section 70 of the Criminal Jus-

ice and Public Order Act 1994. The House of Lords (Lord Slynn and Lord Hope dissenting al-lowed an appeal by Margaret Jones and Richard Lloyd from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Collins) (The Times January 27, 1907; [1998] QB 563), which had allowed an appeal by the Di-rector of Public Prosecutions by case stated from Salisbury Crown Court Judge Webster, QC and jus-

The crown court had allowed the defendants' appeal against their conviction by Salisbury Justices of trespassory assembly contra-ry to section 14B(2) of the 1986 Act. Mr Edward Fitzgerald, OC, Mr. Hudson for the defendants: Mr Vicfor Temple, QC and Mr Michael Butt for the Director of Public Pros-

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said that an order had been made by the district council under secnon 14A(2) of the 1986 Act prohibiting trespassory assemblies in the

On the evening of June 1, 1995 a

Trent Taverns Ltd v Sykes

[Judgment January 22]

Chadwick

Before Lord Justice Beldam, Lord

Justice Potter and Lord Justice

The Court of Appeal could, in the

exercise of its discretion, make a

reference to the European Court of

point of Community law had at-

ready been decided by the Court of

Appeal, as the ordinary domestic

principles of stare decisis were not

dismissing an appeal by Mr Ian Sykes, the defendant, from the dis-

missal by Mr Justice David Steel.

on February 18, 1998, of his counter-

claim against the plaintiffs, Trent

Tayerns Ltd. that by reason of the

provisions of article 85(1) of the

EEC Treaty (Cmnd 5179-11) he was

entitled to restitution of the

amount be had paid to the plain

beer drinks and to damages.

utts for supplies of beer and non-

vides: "The Court of Justice shall

have jurisdiction to give prelimi-

nary rulings concerning: (a) the in-

terpretation of this Treaty ... Where

any court or tribunal of a member

state, that court or tribunal may, if

it considers that a decision on the

question is necessary to enable it to

give judgment, request the Court

of Justice to give a ruling thereon. Where any such question is raised

in a case pending before a court or

tribunal of a member state against

whose decisions there is no judicial

PUBLIC NOTICES

Article 177 of the EEC Treaty pro-

The Court of Appeal so stated in

applicable to such references.

ple on the roadside verge adjacent to the perimeter fence of the momument. Some had borne banners with legends such as "Free Stonehenge". He had told them that they ted a trespassory assembly and asked them to move off. Some. including the defendants, had re-

mained and been arrested. The crown court had held that none of the group had been "destructive, violent, disorderly, threatening a breach of the peace or. on the evidence, doing anything other than reasonably using the high-

It had been assumed for the purposes of the appeal to the Divisional Court that the group had not created an obstruction and not consti-Section 14A(5) of the 1986 Act prohibited, as a trespassory assembly, an assembly that took place "so as to exceed _ the limits of the pub-

he's rights of access". Section 14A(7) defined a "limited" right of access as meaning that the public's use of it was "restricted to use for a particular purpose (as The central issue thus turned on

the interrelated questions (i) what were the "limits" of the public's right of access to the public highway at common law; and (ii) what was the "particular purpose" for which the public had a right to use

In broad terms the basis of the Divisional Court's decision was the proposition that the public's right of access to the highway was limited to the right to pass and repass and to do anything incidental or ancillary to that right. Peaceful assembly was not so incidental. That was founded on authorities

ncluding Harrison v Duke of Rutman v Maisey ([1900]) QB 752).

remedy under national law, that

court or tribunal shall bring the maner before the Court of Justice."

Mr Alan Tyrell. QC and Mr Becket Bedford for Mr Sykes; Mr

LORD JUSTICE CHADWICK

The plaintiffs, the lessors, took

said that the appellant was the les-

see of a public house in Bidford on

proceedings against him for breach of the terms of the lease.

which contained a beer tie requir-

ing him to purchase all require-

ments of beer from the lessors or

out part of the counterclaim, includ-

the provisions of article 85. Mr

Sykes was entitled to restitution of

the amount he had paid for beer

held that the prohibition in article

55(1) was imposed for the protec-

tion of potential competitors, not

for the benefit or protection of the

parties to the agreement; and that

Mr Sykes, as lessee, was a person

who was himself a party to the an-

ti-competitive bargain which the

prohibition sought to prevent and

by the fact that that conclusion had

been reached by other judges at

first instance: Inntrepreneur Es-

rates (CFC) pic v Milne (Mr Justice Mitchell): Inntrepreneur Estates

(EG) Ltd v Singh (Sir Peter Pain): Scottish and Newcastle plc v

He expressed himself fortified

so could have no remedy.

In striking out, the judge had

and other damages

Trent Taverrus applied to strike

James Flynn for Trent Taverns.

The question was whether the law today should recognise that the public highway was a public place on which all manner of reasonable activities might go on.

In his Lordship's opinion it should. Provided those activities were reasonable, did not involve the commission of a public or prito an obstruction of the highway unreasonably impeding the primary right of the general public to pass and repass, they should not constitute a trespass. Subject to those qualifications, there would be a right of peaceful assembly on

To limit lawful use of the highway to that which was literally "incidental or ancillary to the right of passage would be to place an unreilistic and unwarranted restriction on commonplace day-to-day activi-

The public highway was a pubc place that the public might enjoy for any reasonable purpose. It was for the magistrates in every case to decide as a matter of facand degree whether the user had sonable and not inconsistent with the right to pass and re-

LORD SLYNN, dissenting, said that on existing authority the law was clear: the right of the public on the highway was restricted to passage and reasonable incidental uses associated with passage.

fect involved giving the public the right to wander over or stay on land for such a period and in such numbers as they chose so long as they were peaceable, not obstruo tive and not committing a nui-

That went far beyond anything that could be described as inciden-tal or ancillary to the use of a high-

Referring to Europe a point already decided

QC); and Matthew Brown plc v Campbell (Mr Michael Tu-

The judge had said: "For good measure, I have considerable sym-

pathy with the submissions of Mr

Nicholas Green, QC, counsel for

the plaintiffs, that enough is

enough. This point has now been

taken, always unsuccessfully, be-

fore a range of tribunals. It must

now be regarded as settled at first

instance. Thus, those seeking to

rely on the point must expect to

find it dealt with summarily pend-

ing any expression of discontent

with the appellant's restitutionary

claim. He expressed himself as for

titled in his conclusion that that

claim, also, was unarguable by the decision of Judge Anthony Thomp-

son, QC. in Gibbs Mew plc v Gem-

mell. He held that both the claim

for damages and the claim for resti-

Since February 18, 1998 when

Mr Justice David Steel gave judg-

ment. Gibbs Mew pic v Gemmeii

had been to the Court of Appeal

In giving the lead judgment Lord Justice Peter Gibson said:

The proposition that a breach of

article 85 gives rise to a claim by a

party to an offending agreement in

damages or restitution has been re-leated by the High Court in a series

of unreported decisions ... In my

judgment those judges were endre-ly right to do so."

tution were bound to fail.

([1998] Eu LR 588).

The judge dealt in similar terms

from the Court of Appeal."

gendhar, QC).

way as such for the purposes of paysage, nor did such an extensive use constitute a reasonable, normal or usual use of the highway as a high-

LORD HOPE, dissenting, said that the consequences of accepting that anyone who was behaving peacefully and non-obstructively and doing no harm to anyone was exercising the public's right of access to the highway, as a matter of right and not by mere tolerance, would have implications far beyand the facts of the present case.

It would affect the position of every private owner of land throughout the country over which there was a public right of way, whether a made-up road or a footpath or a

It seemed to his Lordship to be contrary to elementary concepts of justice that the rights of landowners as against the public in relation to access to their land should be diminished by a decision of the House of Lords when nobody who was in a position to defend their in-terest had yet been heard.

His Lordship was not persuaded that the balance that was struck in private law between the rights of while and those of landowners was in need of adjustment to enable members of the public to exercise their freedom of assembly. In practice, they were allowed to ssemble in public places as they

wished without objection or hindrance so long as they did not ob-LORD CLYDE said that the deendants' argument and the reasoning of the crown court had gone fur-

ther than necessary in suggesting that any reasonable use of the high-

way, provided that it was peaceful

and not obstructive, was lawful

The first question was whether a

decision on some question of Com-

munity law was necessary to ena-

ble the court to give judgment in the appeal before it. His Lordship would answer that question in the

It was submitted that the obser

vations of Lord Justice Peter Gib-

son on the effect of article 85, in

which the other members of the

court concurred, were obiter. His

unlikely to persuade the court that it should reach a decision inconsist-

ent with Gibbs Mew. His principal

submission was that the court should not reach a decision at all

without first seeking a ruling on

the relevant points of Community

law from the Court of Justice pursu

ant to article 177 of the EEC Treaty.

In support of that submission b

deployed arguments which, if accepted, would lead to the conclu-

sion that the Court of Appeal was

wrong to decide those points in Gibbs Mew in the way that it did.

one point, to the proposition that it

would be inappropriate to make a

reference for the reason that the rel-

evant point of Community law had

already been decided in Gibbs

Mew, so that, on the ordinary do-

mestic principles of state decisis, the point must be regarded as

But he was persuaded that that simple approach would be incon-

sistent with the decision of the Court of Justice in Case 166/73

closed at that level.

Or Email tril.features@newsint.co.uk

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

His Lordship was attracted, at

Mr Tyrell accepted that he was

Lordship did not agree.

and so a matter of public right.

door of programs dimensions into an ill-defined area of uses that might erode the basic predominance of the essential tise of a highway as a highway.

Such an approach opened a

The test as to whether the pubhe's right of access to the highway had been exceeded could not be defined in general terms but had to matter of degree. It required a careful assessment of the nature and ex-

If the purpose of the activity be-came the predominant purpose of the occupation of the highway, or if the occupation became more than reasonably transitional in terms of either time or space, it might come to exceed the right to use the high-

The matter was essentially one so be judged in the light of the particular facts of the case, but his Lordship was prepared to hold that a peaceful assembly that did not obstruct the highway did not necessarily constitute a trespasso-

LORD HIJTTON said that the holding of a public assembly on a highway could constitute a reason able user of it and so not constitute a trespass, but his Lordship's opin-ion that the appeal should be allowed was based on the crown court's finding that the assembly in which the defendants had taken part on that particular highway at that particular time had been a rea-

sonable use of the highway, He would not hold that a peace ful and non-obstructive public assembly on a highway was always a reasonable user and therefore not

a trespass. Solicitors: Mr Philip Leach Southwark: Douglas & Partners, Bristol; Crown Prosecution Serv-

Rheinmühlen-Düsseldorf v Ein-

fuhr- und Vorratsselle für Getriede und Futtermittel (1974)

The Court of Justice there decid-

ed that a rule of national law

whereby a court was bound on

points of law by the rulings of a su-

perior court could not deprive the inferior courts of their power to re-

fer to the Court of Justice questions

law involving such rulings. The

principle must apply, at least equal-

ly, to a case where the national

court was bound by its own earlier

that this was not a case where the

court should seek a ruling from the

was clearly relevant that the Court of Appeal had recently reached a

clear conclusion on the same point.

A petition for leave to arreal in

Gibbs Mew was before the House

of Lords and the question the court

was asked to refer was squarely

raised in that petition. In those cir-

cumstances it seemed wrong in

principle to take a step which

might be seen as pre-empting the decision of the House of Lords.

might decide that the appropriate course was to refer the question be-

fore deciding whether or not to

grant leave to appeal. If it took that

course then there was nothing to

be gained by having a separate ref-

gard to the position which might

develop in the present higation. It could not be sensible to refer ques-tions which might turn out to be wholly academic. There was to be

a trial, within the next two weeks.

of the question whether the lease

which contained the beer tie has

Third, it was relevant to have re-

erence now.

been restinded.

Second, the House of Lords

Nevertheless, he was satisfied

First, although not conclusive, it.

of interpretation of Community

ECR 331.

ruling.

Court of Justice.

trespasser on land The principal objection was that the grant of such relief would lants intention that their occupa-Manchester Airport plev Duttion would make it difficult or impossible for the airport company to

ton and Others

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Lord Justice Chadwick and Lord Justice ZWE

[Judgment February 23] A licensee with a right to occupy land was entitled to claim poss sion against a trespasser, whether or not that licensee was in actual oc-cupation of the land, if that was a necessary remedy to give effect to the rights of occupation he enjoyed under the licence.

The summary procedure in Or-der 113 of the Rules of the Supreme Court was available to a licensee not in occurration of the land to enforce his rights under the licence against a respasser. There was no requirement of exclusive posses-sion of the land in order to claim a such a remedy.

The Court of Appeal so held, Lord Justice Chadwick dissenting. dismissing the appeal of Lee Dut ton and others from the dismissa by Mrs Justice Steel on January In. 1998 in the Manchester District Registry of an appeal against the order of the district judge on Sep-tember 18, 1998 under Order 113 rule 6 of the Rules of the Supremy Court that Manchester Airport plc be granted possession of Arthurs Wood, Styal, Cheshire. Order 113, rule 1 of the Rules of

the Supreme Court provides: "Where a person claims posses sion of land which he alleges is occupied solely by a person or per-sons toot being a tenant or tenants holding over after the termination of the tenancy) who entered into and remained in occupation without his licence or consent or that of any predecessor in title of his, the proceedings may be brought by originating summons in accord-

Mr Christopher Maile in person for all appellants; Mr Timothy King, QC and Mr Mark J. Forte for Manchester Airport.

ance with the provisions of this Or-

LORD JUSTICE CHADWICK. ssenting, said that Arthur's Wood was conveyed to the National Trust on August 5, 1980. The wood was near the proposed second runway for Manchester Air-

To comply with conditions which were to govern the operation of the proposed second runway, when completed, the airport com pany, as the proposed operator of chester Airport, needed to create an obstacle limitation surface. That required a reduction of

height in obstacles within the flight path. For that purpose the airport company needed to carry out the lopping or felling of trees within Arthur's Wood.

The appellants were opposed to those works on environmental and ecological grounds. On June 19,: 1998 the appellants or others entered Arthur's Wood and set up encampments, including tree-houses, roocwalks and a tunnel.

They did so without permission

carry out the tree-looping works. On June 22, 1998, the National

Licensee's claim against

Trust granted a licence to the airport company to occupy the land to enable the lopping works to be carried out On August 7, 1998 the sirport

company commenced the present proceedings to recover possession. The district judge made the order sought.
Mrs Justice Steel recorded that

the appellants' principal submis-sion was that the airport company had no locus standi to apply for an order for possession, since a person entitled to claim possession un-der Order 113, rule I had to have an olute title and exclusive possession. The company's licence to occu-py did not give it exclusive posses-

The judge was satisfied that as a licenser the airport company had the locus standi to bring the procertings. The licence gave the right of possession which gave a power against trespassers, and she dismissed the appeal.

The appellants appealed, the is-sue being whether the licence gave the airport company an interest in the land sufficient to enable it to seek an order for possession under the summary, procedure in Order

His Lordship said that it had long been understood that a licenpation did not have title to bring an action for ejectment,

An action for ejecament, the forerunner of the present action for re-covery of land, as well as an action for trespass could only be brought by a person who was in possession or who had a right to be in posses sion. Further, that possession was synonymous, in this content, with

exclusive occupation. The licence in the present case was a clear example of a personal permission to enter the land and use it for some stipulated purpose. it would be contrary to what Mr Justice Windeyer in Radaich v Smith (1959) 101 CLR 209, 222) deacribed as "long established law" to hold that it conferred on the airport authority rights to bring an ac-

tion in rem for possession of the land to which it related. His Lordship would have allowed the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE LAWS said that it was clear that if the airport company had been in actual occu-pation under the licence and the spassers had then entered on the site, the company could have obtained an order for possession.

Their claim for possession would not, were they in occupa-tion, be defeated by the circumstance that they enjoyed no title or estate in the land, nor any right of exclusive possession as against their licensors, which the National Trust had no power to grant.

But why could they not obtain such an order before they entered from the National Trust; and as into occupation, so as to evict the Justice Laws. against the National Trust they trespassers and enjoy the licence were trespassers. It was the appeling granted to them?

amount to an ejectment, a remedy available to a party with title to or estate in the land; which as mere licensees the company plainly lacked. That was the old law. His Lordship heard the rattle of 40

0001

mediaevai chains. The remedy of ejectment was simply not concerned with the potential rights of a licensee.

The limited and specific nature of ejectment meant only that it was not available to a licensee; it did not imply the further proposition that no remedy by way of possession could now be granted to a licensee not in occupation.

There was no longer a distinct remedy of ejectment; a plaintiff sued for an order of poss whether he himself was in corms tion or not.

The proposition that a plaintiff The proposition that a planting not in occupation could ority obtain the remedy if he were an estate owner assumed that he had to bring himself within the old law of ejectment. His Lordship thought it was a false assumption. was a false assumption The court had ample power to

would protect but not exceed his legal rights granted by the Beence. The true principle was that a licensee not in occupation could claim possession against a tres-

passer if that was a necessary remedy to vindicate and give effect to such rights of occupation as by contract with his licensor he enjoyed. That was the same principle as allowed a licensee who was in de

facto possession to evict a trespass-er. There was no respeciable distinction, in law or logic, between the two situations. An estate owner might seek an order whether he was in posses-

sion or not. So might a licensee, if other things were equal. In both cases the plaintiff's remedy was strictly limited to what was re-quired to make good his legal Elementarily, he could not ex-

clude any occupier who, by con-tract we estate, had a claim to possession equal or superior to his own. Obviously that would not avail a bare trespasser.

There was no significance, as a matter of principle, in any distinction between a plaintiff whose right to occupy the land arose from title and one whose right arose only in contract.

In every case the question was what was the reach of the right. and whether it was shown that the defendant's acts violated its enjoyment. If they did, as here, and an order for possession was the only practical remedy, the remetly should be gramed.

There was no question of the writ of possession interfering with the prior rights of the National Trust. The judge was right to uphold the order for possession.

Lord Justice Kennedy delivered judgment concurring with Lord

Solicitors: Mrs Rose-Marie

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

Sentence for conspiracy to corrupt police officer

Regina v Brown Regina v King Regina v Mahoney

Before Lord Justice Auki, Mr Justice Forbes and Mr Justice David [Judgment February 3]

A starting point of nine years was appropriate for sentencing a former police officer in a case of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice and conspiracy to corrupt a

miss the appeal. Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Beldam agreed. honey against sentences imposed Solicitors: Lodders, Stratford-up-on-Avon: Kimbell & Co, Milton on March 21, 1998 at the Central Criminal Court by Judge Forrest-

For those reasons it would not be appropriate to make a reference. In the absence of a reference The Court of Appeal, Criminal decision in Gibbs Mere and dis-Division, so held in allowing appeals by Raymond John Brown, Martin John King and Mark Ma-

Brown's sentence of three years the judgment of the court, said that the trial judge had probably overimprisonment for conspiracy to pervert the course of justice was re-duced to 21 months. King's total concurrent sentence of nine years on two counts of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice, two counts of conspiracy to corrupt a police officer and one count of corruption was reduced to a concurrent total of six years. Mahoney's concurrent total of five years was reduced to three and a half.

Mr John Nutting, QC, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Ap-peals, and Ms Anne Johnston, pro-bono, for Brown; Ms Sasha Wass, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for King, Mr Graham Henson, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for Mahoney. LORD JUSTICE AULD, giving as a police officer but the important point was his use of know-how and contacts put to his own and others' advantage, The critical question was what was or should have been a starting point for the overall sentence of Mr King, with credit for a plea of

emphasised Mr King's former role

guilty, in the specific circumstanc-His financial ruin, and the effect and on him and his family were materi-The trial judge's starting point

al considerations. might have been in the region of 13 years. In their Lordship's opinion nothing more than a starting sentence of nine years was appropri-

Time runs from date of transfer of funds

HF Pension Trustees Ltd v Elison and Others Before Mr Justice Jonathan Parker

[Judgment February 7] Where a plaintiff relied on allegedly negligent legal advice and un-lawfully transferred surplus pension funds, time started to run for the purposes of section 14A of the Limitation Act 1980, as inserted from the date of the transfer and

not from when it was appreciated that the advice might have been negligent. Mr Justice Jonathan Parker so held in the Chancery Division in a judgment delivered in chambers when deciding to strike out the ac-tion brought by the plaintiffs, HF Pension Trustees Ltd. against the defendants: Robin Charles Effison and Jare Marguret Marshall, par-ners in Ellison Westorp, and Ham-mond Suddards, a firm which marged with Ellison Westorp.

Section 14A, as inserted by section I of the Latent Damage Act 1986, provides: "(4) [the period of limitation] is either (a) six years from the date on which the cause of action accrued: or (b) three years from the starting date as defined by subsection (5)...

(5) ... the earliest date on which the plaintiff _ had both the knowledge required for bringing an action for damages in respect of the relevant damage and a right to bring an action". Mr Alan Steinfeld, QC, for the

defendants; Mr Nigel Inglis Jones. QC and Mr Roger Stewart for the MR JUSTICE JONATHAN PARKER said that the plaintiffs sued as HF Pensions Trustees Ltd.

the trustees of an occupational pen-

sion scheme originally established to benefit employees of Farstock Marketing Corporation Ltd (FMC). In 1983 FMC was taken over by

Hillsdown Holdings plc. Hillsdown also operated its own occupational pension scheme, known as the HF Meat and Foods Processing Pension Scheme of which the plaintiffs were trustees. In May 1989 it became apparent following an actuarial valuation, that there was a substantial surplus in the FMC scheme. It was proposed by Hillsdown that the surplus in the FMC scheme should be transferred to the HF scheme, with a view to the beautiful.

with a view to the benefit of it being passed on to Hillsdown. The FMC trustees sought professional advice concerning that pro-posal from a solicitor experienced in pension matters, Mr Robin Ellison, who advised the trustees to the effect that they had power under the scheme to transfer the surplus. The FMC trustees accepted and acted on that advice. On November 17, 1989 the transfer was effected and by payments made on De-cember 21, 1989 and June 25, 1990 the plaintiffs as trustees of the HF scheme made payments out of the

surplus totalling E18.44 million.
E11.06 million was paid to
Hillsdown and E7.3 million to the Inland Revenue Following the making of those payments, a number of pensioners under the FMC scheme com-plained to the Pensions Ombudsman. That complaint was upheld and Mr Justice Knox dismissed a

subsequent appeal made by

On October 17, 1997 a writ was issued alleging that the advice given by Mr Ellison to the FMC trustees

Was untawful was a conclusion of law not of fact, he submitted.

In support of his submissions of Mr Steinfeld relied on the decision

had been negligent. By way of damages, the plaintiffs claimed (i) the amounts paid to the Inland Revenue with interest and (ii) the costs incurred by the FMC scheme and the LTC property. the HF scheme in relation to the

It was conceded by the plaintiffs that any claim for breach of a con-tractual duty of care arising out of the retainer of Ellison Westorp was statute barred. It was further accepted by the

plaintiffs that its cause of action in the tort of negligence accrued at the latest on June 25, 1990, the date on which the later of the two payments out of the HF Scheme was made, and that its claims in tort were also statute barred unless it could bring itself within the terms of section 14A of the 1980 Act.

Mr Steinfeld submitted that all the facts relevant to the pleaded claim in negligence were known to the plaintiff when it suffered the damage on which the claim was based; that was to say when it made payments out of the scheme to Hillsdown and to the Inland Rev-

The fact that it might not have appreciated that the advice which Mr Ellison gave might have been negligent until some unit land did not realise that the transfer gligent until some time later and was unlawful until Mr Justice Knox held that it was, did not operate to bring the plaintiff within sec-

tion 14A. The question whether or not the advice was negligent was irrele-vant to the question of knowledge for the purposes of section 14A, and the conclusion that the transfer was unlawful was a conclusion of

in Bradstock Trustee Services Ltd and Another, v Nabarro, Nathan-son [[1995] I WLR 1405) and Hend-

with the planning of the state sequence, that Mr Ellison's advice was wrong; in practice, that meant when Mr Justice Knox delivered

He submitted that both those matters were matters of fact and not of law.
His Lordship said that he accepted Mr Steinfeld's submissions. All

the material large were known to the plaintiffs. What it did not know and could not have known was that at some time in the future a court would hold that the transfer was unlaw-ful; but although the making of the decision was undoubtedly a lack

the unlawfulness of the transfer was a matter of law.
What the plaintiffs argument boiled down to was that although it knew all the material facts, it did not know until later that those facts. gave rise to a claim in negligence in his Lowishin's incoment how in his Lordship's judgment, how-ever, in cases under section VAA 85 in personal injury cases, mere igno-rance that the known facts might give rise to claim in law could not

postpone the running of time of postpone me authorities indicated that the 1980 Act.

The authorities indicated that both sections 14 and 14A were oncerned with matters of fact provable by evidence, as opposed to make the section of the section of

EDUCATION

How should we tackle poor teachers?

The incompetent teacher has be work to racial discrimination, builying come one of the bogeys of the Nineties, a stereotype to rival that of the long-suffering nurse and the untrustworthy politician — or journalist. Attention has centred on estimates of how many inadequate performers there are in British classrooms, rather than on how to identify them, let alone cope with the problem.

Parents who have had the misfortune to have a poor teacher in charge of their children will know that it is not always easy to pin down the shortcomings. A teacher may be uninspiring and lacklustre, but these are not sackable offences. Too many glib statements about the

defects of state schools assume that incompetence is not only rife, but obvious, and capable of only one remedy: dismissal. Two studies published today illustrate some of the complexities facing head teachers and

those judged to be incompetent. The reports are part of a larger study being carried out at Exeter University's School of Education. Without excusing incompetence or pretending that it does not exist, they question the criteria used to judge teachers, and the response of many schools. Professor Ted Wragg,

who is leading the research, is famously sympathetic to teachers and sceptical about their critics. His column in The Times Educa-

tional Supplement often lampoons ministers and inspectors for making what he regards as generalised and unsubstantiated allegations of incompetence. Today's reports, however, ask important questions for pupils and parents, as well as teachers.

The research looks at the treatment of incompetence from the point of view of those accused and the head teachers who have to deal with the issue. The sample - 654 heads and 70 self-selected teachers - though large, is not necessarily representative. But there are common threads running through both reports. Not surprisingly, most of the teachers accused of incompetence felt misjudged. Their explanations ranged are are to be helped to from medical problems affecting their no-hopers weeded out.

and conspiracy theories. However, fewer than one in ten of those who had com-pleted a disciplinary procedure were deemed to have improved sufficiently to remain in their posts. Many left be-

fore matters reached that stage. Yet 26 of the 44 teachers in completed cases are now back in the classroom, albeit often in part-time or occasional work. Some wish that they had challenged the original allegation more vigorously, taking their subsequent em-ployment as vindication, but Professor Wragg's survey cannot show which ver-dict was correct. Because the allegations concerned key skills such as the maintenance of discipline, lesson planning and inadequate progress by pupils, there must be a suspicion that some at least are in the

wrong job. The head teachers' responses also raise concerns about the way allegations of incompetence are handled. Many admitted that they should have acted sooner and, with almost half of the cases taking more than a year to resolve, would have welcomed swifter resolution. Only a third had any relevant training and needed more advice on employment law. A quarter of the teachers tackled by the heads in the survey improved enough to stay on, the rest eventually re-

signing or taking early retirement. But only 13 per cent were considered to have developed into good teachers, while 42 per cent were "acceptable".

Perhaps the most worrying trait to emerge is the sheer inconsistency of schools' responses. More than a third of the teachers said their school had no formal monitoring of performance and no procedure to deal with allegations of incompetence. One in six of the heads admitted that there had been no predetermined procedure to follow.

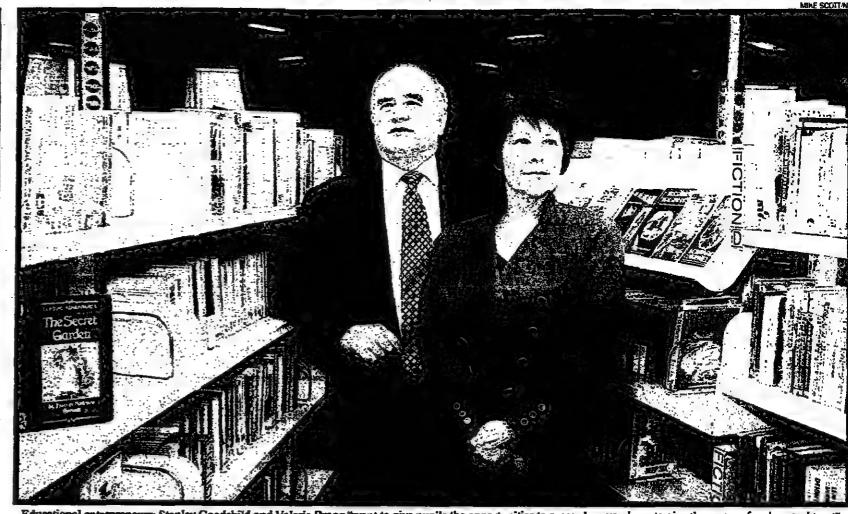
So far, teaching competence has been seen purely in terms of black and white. Today's reports suggest that there are shades of grey, and that a more systemaric approach is needed if under-achievers are to be helped to improve and the

THE SUNDAY TIMES

This Sunday, 58 ways to effortiessly transform your garden.

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Educational entrepreneurs: Stanley Goodchild and Valerie Bragg "want to give pupils the opportunities to succeed ... you have to give them some freedom and trust

The school Swat team

daunting task faces Stanley Goodchild and his wife Valerie Bragg as they prepare to turn around one of the worst state schools in England, but they are ready for the challenge. From September next year, 3E's Enterprises, the Birmingham company they manage, will run Kings Manor, a failing comprehensive in a rundown area of Guildford in Surrey. Kings Manor was built to house 900 pu-

pils, but student numbers have fallen to about 400 and, according to Ofsted, the school has dismal exam results, high absenteeism and exclusion, poor behaviour, low expectations, indifferent teaching and patchy leadership. However, Mr Good-child and Ms Bragg, both 55, who have a strong record of saving failing schools and educating children from deprived backgrounds, are confident of success. Yet the dynamic educational entrepreneurs, who have generated millions of pounds in This couple say they can turn around a failing school. Simon Midgley investigates

'I have

passion to

make

school

enjoyable'

their schools over the years, seem surprisingly self-effacing.
"If all goes to plan, Kings Manor is going to be oversubscribed a year or so after it reopens," Mr Goodchild says. "There is disbelief among some education folk in Guildford that anything is going to hap-pen. 'It has been like that for 15 years,'

they say, 'why is it going to change now?'
Well, they are going to be surprised."
Mr Goodchild may well be as good as his word. As a head teacher in the 1980s,

he transformed Garth Hill, a run-down, vandal-ridden comprehensive in Bracknell, into one of the most technologically advanced schools in Europe. It became a forerunner of the network of City Technology Colleges (CTCs), inner-city schools with curricula biased towards science, technology

and mathematics. Valerie Bragg, whom he married last year, also knows a thing or two about turning sows' ears into silk purses. In 1988 she became principal of Kineshurst, the first CTC, in

an unprepossessing area of east Birming-

When she started, 83 per cent of students were leaving at 16. Now more than 90 per cent stay on and 40 per cent go on to university. The mystery, however, is precisely how they intend to turn Kings Manor around. It rapidly becomes apparent that few decisions have been made.

We know that the present school will close and its buildings will undergo a El million refurbishment in a conscious "re-branding" of the institution. It will re-

commercial and industrial investment for open next year as a voluntary-aided arts

and technology college.

The couple will decide what steps to take only after talking to as many parents, teachers and others as possible. Mr Goodchild says there is no single table d'hôte answer for transforming a school's performance; rather one must choose from an à la carte menu.

While they may try to repeat some of the successful initiatives at Garth Hill (for example, school uniforms, discipline) and Kingshurst (the International Baccalaure-

are rather than A levels and a mix of vocational and academic education), they want to fashion their educational solutions to Kings Manor's precise

cessful schools are "owned" by the community. "If you can create a school seen to evolve from the aspirations of the community." he says, "then it has a far better chance of survival or development. Everything is possible if parents share the vision of what the school will be like in future."

Ms Bragg says that there will probably be vocational, technological, scientific and arts education. She also expects that Kingshurst CTC and the Guildford college will pioneer new technologies such as video-conferencing to share teaching and expertise. It is hoped that it will develop strong links with busi-

nesses, hospitals and universities. With the help of an advisory team, the couple will appoint the majority of the governors, a new head and staff. To some, the lack of an educational blueprint for Kings Manor might seem vaguely worrying. Ms

Bragg also talks in generalities. "It is not one thing," she says. "It involves raising the expectations of the students and making them believe that they can do it. To do that, you have got to give them some freedom and trust.

You need a curriculum that excites, motivates and switches them on. And that curriculum will not be the same for every child. Too often children are forced to do things. I think you need to ask them what they want to do. It is a case of encourage-ment, praise and taking an interest, looking at their work.

I mean, you have only to say to a child 'I am really impressed with what you are doing' to see them growing.

"It is also about involving the community - pupils, staff, everybody - in the vision. So what will actually emerge will be unique to Kings Manor."

3E's Enterprises, the commercial arm of Kingshurst CTC where Mr Goodchild is MD and Mrs Bragg a director, is being til the day the college opens, after which payments will be related to performance targets, such as raising pupil numbers and improving exam results. Any future profits will be shared between Kings Manor and Kingshurst CTC.

🐧 he couple will not reap any financial benefit from the deal. "Let's face it," Ms Bragg said, "If we wanted to be rich we would have done something very different from education wouldn't we?"

So why are they doing it? "We believe passionately in education," she says. "I did not like school myself. I have this passion to make it enjoyable and interesting. We feel that too many children become switched off around the age of 12. They underachieve and in many cases regret it for the rest of their lives.

"What drives us is this feeling that we want to give pupils the opportunities to

Weighed down by books

French pupils suffer from a heavy workload. Adam Sage reports

Sebastien Rougier stag-gered out of Lycée Michelet on the outskirts of Paris looking like a backpacker in the Himalayas. His rucksack was bulging, his legs were bowed.

Sometimes it can be worse than this," Sebastien, 17, said, puffing. "Our parents spend about £150 a year on textbooks, which weigh us down and which we often don't use. All we get for the money is back problems."

His comment echoes the views of Claude Allegre, the French Education Minister, who has launched a national debate that is likely to revolutionise the relationship between classes and textbooks. These books are too expensive and stuffed full of things that children don't need to know," he says.

Paul Landric, head of Collège Jean Moulin, in Perpignan in the South West, was among those who supported the minister. "Last year," he says, "we weighed our pupils with their bags and discovered that at the age of 11, they often carry between 10 and 14 kilos - 40 per cent of their own weight. Parents have been telling us for some time that their children are suffering health problems, such

as back pain, as a result The difficulty is that everyone in France considers the



Children carry 40 per cent of their own weight home each day

than the spoken word of the teacher. We have an almost religious attitude to the book." This did not stop M Landric

ordering the dissection of textbooks for a class of 13-yearolds last term. The works were cut up and the pupils handed a few pages at a time, drastically reducing the average weight of their satchels. The minister has also raised

the problem of whether the books are for the use of teachers to help them to structure

والمراسية ويحالها فترجع والمهاري والمعتاد

written word more important their courses, or for pupils. In practice, publishers design products that will appeal to teachers: full of graphs, diagrams and pictures.

> As Denis Paget, the deputy general secretary of the National Union of Secondary School Teachers, says: "The books have become so exuberant that it is often impossible for children to find their way through them."

One book for 17-year-olds explains Balzac's novel Le Père

agendas" - which is no more comprehensible in French than it is in English. This is accompanied by a "simple dia-gram" that rates the characters in terms of their "destination", "object" and "attitude". linking them with a shower of arrows. The work concludes: The system of enunciation is conserved when the subjects' wording demands it.'

happens is that pu-pils get a 400-page book but only use only about 50 pages during the year." This is bad for the national budget because the State pays for all textbooks until children leave colleges at the age of 16 to enter the lycée, where their parents have to find the £150 annual cost of books. Because the average price of a textbook is £17, the result is that they don't get changed for years on end. Sometimes, they can be 15 years old and inappropri-

ate to new programmes." In the short term, M Allegre hopes that the ticking-off he gave publishers will produce smaller, cheaper and more comprehensible books.

In the long term, IT advocates say, computers will provide teachers with all the materials they need, leaving textbooks to offer simple guidance and exercises for pupils.

Conspiracy l police officer

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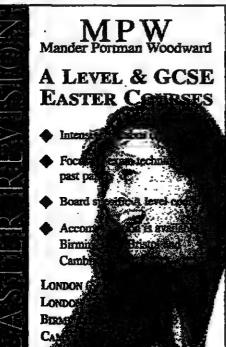
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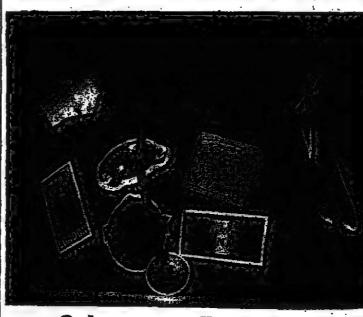
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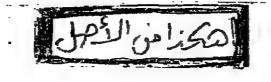


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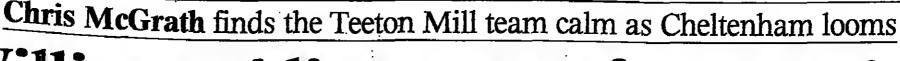
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Williams riding wave of expectation

a better job of containing her Cheltenham Festival nerves than are the Here-fordshire hills with the River Wye. Yesterday's flooded valley, where she trains Teeton Mill, further absorbed a surfeit of expectation, as she stacked her sandbags against rising levels of interest in the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup favourite.

Once the electric gates had closed on the last of the scribes and television crews leaving an open morning at her stables, she hoped to be left alone for some quiet counting. Days before the Festival now come to il. The number of sound legs demonstrably included, yesterday, the four attached to Tecton Mill. Then there are her blessings, among which perhaps the most valuable just now is that she is too self-possessed to fret about things beyond her control.

Yet these include the factor that could decide the Gold Cup. Norman Williamson, Tecton Mill's jockey, concedes that his contest with the Irish champion, Florida Pearl, will be "very tactical" - and Miss Williams is leaving him to play his own hand.

Though keeping his cards prudently close to his chest, he gave the impression that he will not risk playing his ace with quite the same ferocity as when, for instance, he burned off his rivals leaving the back straight in the King George VI Chase. The much suffer track at Cheltenham remains the scene of Teeton Mill's sole defeat under Rules, against Double Thriller in a hunter chase last spring, and to as-sert a long way out might leave him exposed on the climb to the line.
Williamson was greatly heart-ened, then, by the facility with

which Teeton Mill dropped back in

trip at Ascot last month. "Now I've

2.20 ilahabad

2.50 Menshaar

3.25 Major Sponsor

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES)

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THUNDERER

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.25 MAJOR SPONSOR.

2.20 KELSO MEMBERS JUVENILE HOVICES HURDLE

221 ILAHABAD 15 (S) (SV Peler () Sullinari) J. PitoGerald 11-4 ... CHARTER RUYAL, 16 (Mr & Mrs R Geren) A Diction 10-12 . (SOF HAPPY DAYS 11. J. Barred () Ministra 10-12 ... P4 SLIM PRICH 43 (C Whitians) D Whitians 10-12 ... B TAKAD 16 (Doeslie Baggers) M Hammond 10-12 ... 4 CINDER HALLS 7 (Gray) M W Espirity 10-7 ...

2.50 CYRIL ALEXANDER MEMORIAL HOVICES CHASE

1906: HEFOTAGE 10-12 P Carbony (10-11 log lets & Braycel (re) 13 rao

forkers (1944) Promoter (1941) and this is induced from 15 and 16 forkers (1941) at 16 forker

ELAHABAD is difficult to oppose in a modest race

2.4.241: SIR 11) (1.3 IUIRIGS)

1. 214P2 BOLD ACTION 11 (D.F.S) (Mrs. 8 Blaintey) J Turner B-11-8

2. 144P1 CHARLE FOXTRIOT 20 (S) (Gelsa Manchers) Mrs. 1 Rescrib 7-11-8

3. 527222 MENSHAAR 17 (B.G.S) (Pless 8 Burnberg) (Lungo 7-11-8

4. 52592 CASTLE RED 17 (B) (B Brown & B Washoo) J Plomack Johnson 8-11-2

A Doubble 74

5. 224P4 CROSS THE RUBRICH 17 (B) (F Burby) F Kirby J B-11-2

6. BU-066 DESPERATE DAYS 53 (S) (F Kirby F Kirby 18-11-2

7. 624PP PINGERPLL 166 (F.G.) (M Brownson V Thompson 18-11-2

8. P30FD (MRS LARE 13 (F.G.) (D bur) J Dur 10-11-2

8. P30FD (MRS LARE 13 (F.G.) (D bur) J Dur 10-11-2

9. ZSC9-BAAJOR (ARRIS 388 (F) (M Ones) M Hompson 17-11-2

10. 5003-0 MR BRUNO 11 (S Bown) M Barnes 6-11-2

11. 4134-4 SPRIT (G S TEEL 17 (S) (B Stenst-Homm) (T late 6-11-2

12. -0000P OUR CAROL 17 (R Balantalopt F Murspin 7-16-11

13. -07435 SHCHARAYS WAY 11 (G.S.) (A Bishirle) P Minsteith 8-16-11

C McCommack (3)

7. STORM 18. SHCHARAYS WAY 11 (G.S.) (A Bishirle) P Minsteith 8-16-11

C McCommack (3)

7. Burling T Shirle 7-12 (Balantalopt 7-16-11)

13. FORTUS SHIRLARAYS WAY 11 (S.S.) (A Bishirle) P Minsteith 8-16-11

C McCommack (3)

SETTING: 11-4 Merchant, Spira Ol Steet, 7-2 Bold Action, 4-1 Charlie Featrol, 12-1 Major Hanis, 14-1 others.

1998: SWAMBISTER 6-11-8 R Supple (8-11 las) t. Lungo 16 tall

1998: SWAMPSTER 6-11-8 R Supple (6-11 les) 1. Lungo 16 rail

Bold Action 31-4 2nd of 15 to Chamting Admired in novice chase at Carliste

2m 41 10 pri, basery with Shomara's Way (10) more off) 37 fish and Mr

Burno (10) were off) bester a distance on Chapter Footrot best Chicode

a distance in 5-more power classe at Heybort (2m 44, soft). Mayeshari 42 and of 15 to Tempole in novice

class at Sedyefield (3m 31, pood) with Sprint Of Stood (10) worse off) 77/46. Bold Action (lowest) public up,

Caster Reid (10) worse off) public up of the Problem (10) worse off) public up and Our Carol (10) worse

Old public up, and Our Carol (10) worse off) public up and Our Carol (10) worse

for Neigh Lame 55 i 40) of 15 to Tom's River in maintain classes of Cally old is sell; Migor Her
18-27 file of 10 to Lets Be Tank in barelloop handles at Bornaccine (3m, good to sell). Migor Her
18-32 file of 10 to Lets Be Tank in barelloop handle at Dornaccine (2m 4, pood), previously 81 2nd of 4 to Ne
38 file and in bandicap handle at Mussebusgh (3m, good).

MENSHAAR has solid claims on his lavoured soft ground

SNOW REPORTS

Wakley scores

RUPERT WAKLEY returned

to the scene where he broke

his left arm in December and

rode his first winner since when Trouble Ahead took the

Natwest Corporation Novic-

es' Chase at Taunton yester-

day. "Luckily the second last fence where I broke my arm

was dolled off," said Wakley.

3/3

3/3

27/2

L = Lower slopes: U = upper slopes

Conditions Weather Burst to (5pm) Uriste Resort Off/p C sm

Piste Resort Off/p

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150 168 Good Open Powder Sun

3.55 Ballyline 4.30 Smiddy Lad 5.00 D'Arblay Street



Venetia Williams parades the leading Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup hope, Teeton Mill, at her Herefordshire base yesterday

got options," he said. "Before I might have been thinking I had to kick on at the top of the hill and stretch them, which is the way he's

won his two biggest races.
"But now he has shown that he has a lot of speed, too. It will be very tactical, but after Ascot at least I can ride him in different ways."

He shares the bemusement of Miss Williams that the sceptics who doubted his speed at Ascot have been replaced by those who now question whether will stay up the Cheltenham hill.

"When he won the Hennessy he looked an out-and-out stayer," the Irishman said. "Then in the King

George people said he was tying up, but he jumped the second last like it was the first and I pulled him up to jump the last. When you're that far in front you don't want to do what Barton Bank did. I was on his back and I've no worries."

The other side of the tactical coin is that Richard Dunwoody can track

Ludlow

Going: chase good to sot, soft in places: hurdles soft

Rundes Son. 2.00 (2m indie) 1, Brilliant Star (A Dobben. 3-1), 2, Baddiens' Roe (11-1), 3, Tur (16-1) Amoreao (4th) 4-9 fev. 12 ren. NR Leading Note, Moscow Mist. 4t, 3'H S Brookshew Tote; 15-60, 61 10, 61 60, 62 00. DF: 615 40 CSF: 632 42.

2.50 (2m 4 ch) 1, Native Cherm (JA McCa-rby, 1-2 lay, Tameksepter's top reting and Richard Evans's nep), 2, Le Brogentos (6-1), 3, Forlyton Dee (6-1), 8 ran 1-4, des. C Modrock Total: 21 40, 21 20, 52 40 DF: 52 40 CSF, 54 05

12.40 CSF, 17 US 3.00 (2m 61 110yd hole) 1, Westonest (C Llewellyn, 16-1), 2, Borsquey (10-11 fav), 3. Brown Seal (50-1), 14 ran NR: Elegant Speciacle 14, 71 M Tate Tote; \$11 40. \$1.80, \$1.90, \$2.80, \$1.90, \$1.20 \$0. \$2.841.

CSF 28.98 4.00 (Sm 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Tevo Lords (C Llewellyn, 20-1), 2, Wilmotts Fency (10-1) favi; 3, Advance Eesi (9-1), 8 nm 61, 11, M Tels. Tols. C21, 70; 122, 0; 150, 12, 40 DF. £16 60 CSF £38 06. Trozet £180.59

4.30 (3m ch) 1, Ceitité Abbey (Mr D S Jores, 7-2), 2, Merching Marqué (11-8 tay); 3, Mr Golighily (8-4), 10 mar. NP: Nocitom Wander, 18, 1-14 Mrs Christine Hardings. Tote: £5 40, £1.70, £1 20, £1.20. DF: £7 40 CSF £8.25.

CSF 18-29. CSP 18-29. CSP 18-29. CSP 18-29. CSP 18-29. CSP 18-29. CSP 19-29. CSP 19-29. CSP 19-29. CSP 18-29. CSP 18-29.

till set jackpot: £96,532.50 — part won (pool of £126,299.19 carried forward to Doncaster today). Placepot: £43.90. Quadpot: £9.30.

Going: soll, heavy in places 2.16 (2m 3i 110yd hole) 1, Fingship Therese (J T22zrd, 5-2); 2, Tein Ton (7-4 zyl; 3, Longstone Lad (16-1), 12 ren. NFE Hiccop. 24, 61 Phichole Tote (24 30: 21.30, 61.40, 23.40 DF: 22.20 CSF; 56.25.

Pictop. 2.4, 62 AD DF: E3:20 CSF: E5:25.
2.40 (2m if hole) I, Blaze of Oak (Miss V Roberts, 11-2), 2. Bus Blazer (4-1 Lev), 3. Rosle-8 (25-1). 11 ran NR. Almapa, Henbury Princess. 111, 16 P. Eccies. Tote. 57.70, E2:50, E2:10, E4:80. DF: E16:30 CSF E23:81 Incast: E458.41.
3.10 (3m cn) I, Trouble Ahead (R Weldey, 11-4), 2. Hight in The Clouds (4-6 fev), 3. Samt Joseph (14-1), 5 ran 81, dist. K Belley Tote: E3:10, E1:40, C1:10 DF: E190 CSF. E4:95
3.40 (3m 110yd hole) I, Masster Rasstus (A Maguire, 4-6 fev), 2. Blackweiter Brave (11-1), 5, Greycosi Boy (11-4) 8 ran 2, 61. Mrs S Williams Tote: E1:70, E1:20, E2:10, E1:10, DF: E3:0, CSF: C11 13
4.10 (3m ch) I, Apple John (Miss P Gundry, 25-1); 2, Ardistown (7-2 lav), 3, Just Bert (12-1), 15 ran Hd, 14 A Winting Tote. E4:170; E3:10, E1:60, E2:20. DF: E96:40. CSF: E103:79
4.40 (2m 110yd ch) I, Sol Misselc (A P Mc-40) (2m 110yd ch) I, Sol Misselc (A P Mc-40)

CS*: E103 79
4.40 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Sol Microlo (A P Mc-Coy, 11-2); 2, Micro Perruykii (7-2) 3, Dovet-to (3-1 lay) 8 ran NFL fee Tee Too 154, sh J. King, Tota: 95.40; 25.00, £1.60, £1.40. DF, 1st or 2nd with any other £14.40. Total Trilecta. 82.00 CSF £24.01. Tricest: £2.89

262.89 5.10 (2m 11 hole) 1, Palcon Ridge (A P Mc-Coy, 5-2 law), 2, Fi To Bust (11-2), 3, High Low (7-2), 6 ran 4l, 201 Miss E Lavelle Tota: 24.30, 52.10, 52.00 DF, 511.10 CSF 514.70.

Placepot: £11.80. Cuadpot: £3.50.

Color: Carterd 2.20 [5] 1, Emmajoun (1 Sproke, 6-4 lav) 2, Sharp Hint (11-2), 3, Scumbous (10-1) 5 ran 114, 24; W Turner Tose 52:30: 51.10, 52:50 DF 53:40 CSF, 53:23.

22.50 (Fr E3.40 CSF: 59.22).
2.50 (Fr E3.4) CSF: 59.22.
3-11: 2, Catultus (4-7 lav), 3, Tactoya (6-1) 6 ran. 10, 114 A Jarvs. Tota. 52 70, C1 40, C1 10 DF: 61 40 CSF 64 75
3.20 (1m) 1 Melody Queen (N Callan, 9-4 tan), 2, Shady Deal (5-1), 3, Indian Swinger (7-2), 5 ran. 3, 6), K Burke, Tota. 52 70
61.50 52.20 DF: 64 70 CSF 511.54

23.80, 21.70 DF £16.20 CSF £20.63, 4.20 (7) 1, Mister Tricky (N Dy., 5-4 fav) 2 Speedy Classic (9-4) 3, Kimmo (20-1) 4 ran. 1°4, 2°4, P Mitchail Tole. £1.90 DF £3.90 CSF. £4.28, 4.50 (1m 2) 1, Horauz (8 Fizpatiric, 11-8 tav); 2, Oo Ee Be (8-1), 3, Pacific Alianos (11-2) 4 ran. 1°4, 3°4, M Johnston, Tole. £1.50 DF £9.90 CSF £10.04 Pherework £113.00 Quadropt £72.50.

Placepot £113.00. Quadpot: £72.60.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

DONCASTER: TRANERS: N Henderson, 11 womer's from 35 numer's, 31.4%, T Easterby, 8 from 35, 22.9%, D Bremson, 5 from 30, 16 Px. Mrs. J Pirman, 4 from 24, 16 P%, D Nicholson, 9 from 56, 16.1%.

JOCKEYS: J Distorne, 6 winners from 14 Non, 42,9%; 6 Bradley, 6 Brom 29, 20 7%; R Seed, 8 Brom 39, 20.5%; P Niver, 10 Brom 62, 16.7%, M Brecoon, 4 Brom 25, 16.5%.

NEWBURY: TRANSPS: Mics V Williams, 3 vincers bom 8 runners, 37.5%, M Proc. 16 form 77, 20.9%, J King, 5 from 25, 20.0%, R Alse, 6 hom 35, 16.7%, N Honderson, 16 form 96, 16.7%

JOCKEYS: J McCarthy, 5 eisteart feat 25 rates, 19.2%; A McCoy, 14 from 93, 15.7%; R Dunwoody, 14 from 95, 14.7%; M Rizgerald, 18 from 127, 14.2%

Lingfield Park

Taunton

him through the race on Florida Pearl. That horse has exceptional cruising speed," Williamson said. And that's what you need in the Gold Cup." Hywel Davies, the former jockey representing Teeton Mill's owners. The Winning Line, added: "I can see Florida Pearl sitting on his tail, expecting to kick go-

RICHARD EVANS Nan-ARTADOEN LAD-(420 Newhury)

Jenny Pfinan's well-tegarded runner is a cut above his cipit rivals judged on a close up third in the classy Barton last No Mensahib Ofesteen (4.10 Digneaster)

ing to the last. But if Norman rides his own race, it will be up to the others to try to beat him. This horse travels well, jumps quickly and will appreciate the strong pace,"

Williamson is enjoying a marvel-lous season and has a corresponding book of Festival rides, though he may yet have to abandon Nick Dun-dee if the Irish novice takes on Teeton Mill. "Obviously I hope he runs in the Royal & Sun Alliance Chase instead, but if the ground is soft he'll go well wherever he runs." Lady Rebecca is favourite for the Bonusprint Stayers' Hurdle, where Williamson is sanguine about her lack of substance and jumping errors. "She does miss the odd one but every time arrives back on the bridle immediately. She rides a lot bigger than she is, a lot of 17-hand horses wouldn't cover as much ground."

Miss Williams, unconcerned that Lady Rebecca pulled off a shoe on Wednesday, will be represented in the Smurfit Champion Hurdle by Bellator, having "run out of time" with Happy Change and Stretarez. But it will be with Teeton Mill in mind that she surveys the Wye valley and reflects on the sort of tide that, taken at the flood, leads on to

Winning Line casts net overseas

By CHRIS McGrath

IMPORTED horses from New Zealand have made a considerable impression over recent seasons — none more so than Lord Gyllene, the 1997 Grand National winner, but few have arrived on these shores with better credentials than Cardiff Arms.

The favourite for the New Zealand St Leger this weekend, the five-year-old has been purchased by The Winning Line as a National Hum prospect. "He has been bought for us by Jim Mallow, who found Lord Gyllene, and he says that Cardiff Arms is every bit as good as him, if not better," a spokesman for The Winning Line said, "Though he is the best Flat horse in New Zealand, he has been bought with a chasing career in mind."

This will be supervised by Venetia Williams, though there is also a chance that he will be tried on the Flat.

Direct Route, the former favourite for the Queen Mother Champion Chase, is unlikely to run in the two-mile showpiece on Wednesday week. The eight-year-old burst a blood vessel when well beaten at Ascot last month and his preparation since has been hampered by wet weather.

"It is odds-against him running." Howard Johnson his trainer, said yesterday. "I haven't been able to do anything with him since he ran at Ascot."

3.25 HENNESSY COGNAC SPECIAL SERIES FINAL (NOVICES HURDLE) 12112 MAJOR SPONSOR 34 (D.G.S.) (S P Gratom Ltd) 8 M Moore 7-11-9 _____ J Callentino F379 123 JESSAJOE 83 (BES) (Mary Perhenship) Males J A Carractio 7-11-9 _____ A Dobber 105 5-1293 AHRAYDOUBLEYOU 20 (S) (R Malesh) Mar S Smith 6-11-6 _____ Smarch 89 44201 BEOURRAT 20 (S) (M Fymri) J Smith 8-15 -6 min 6-11-6 _____ D Byrmi 9 4201 BEOURRAT 20 (S) (M Fymri) J Smith 5-11-6 _____ D Byrmi 9 -22112 CRAZY HORSE 27 (BES, C.S.S.) Postreytant investments Un) L Lungo 6-11-6 R Supple 112 -10031 KONOKKRAF ARR 29 (C.S.S.) Mc 2 Mars & Cristry J Charlen 8-11-6 ____ B Suprey 103 502004 BILLY NOMATE 8 (R Preston) Jáns S Smith 5-(1-2 _____ R Wildinson) 90 0 THEREOMEY 170 O Stells M Hemotomed 4-10-8 _____ B Harding

SETTING: 6-4 Crary Horse, 7-4 Major Spoosor, 6-1 Knockers Fair, 10-1 Tessajos, Begurral, 25-1 Alvaydoubleyou

Major Sponsor 15 2nd of 6 to Barton in novice handle grade 2 at Doucas-br (2m 44, good in self), predoctyly bed Lord Lamb 13 in 6-maser opeion hardle at Newcastle (2m, bespr) with Attraydoubleyou 16th being oppi-palled up. Tessajoe 84-d and of 10 to Brown Lad in novice handle at Newcastle (2m, bespr) with Attraydoubleyou 16th being of 2nd of 19 to Lord Lamb in novice handles in the state at Newcastle (2m, good to total, Attraydoubleyou 34-d and 7 to the bushy in novice handles handle at Neydock (2m, and), Repured bat 8 bround 8 in 10-name qurves bardle in Ayr (2m, soft); previously 201 53th of 17 to Reggie Buck in novice handlese handle at Doucaster (2m 110yd, good to soft), Carely Horsa heck 2nd of 8 to Toucoc in novice handlese handles at Newcastle (2m 10yd, good to soft), Carely Horsa heck 2nd of 8 to Toucoc in novice handlese handles in Kineckara Fair boal Scraptack 8 is 12-namer movice handle in the part of the Newcastle (2m 10yd, soft), previously 6 and of 18 to At Goorg in novi-te handles of Doucaster (2m 110yd, good). Billy Normatia 41 the of 11 to Better Buth in novice handlese handle at Handlegoton (2m 4f 110yd, good). Targreenev 289 7th of 18 to Pletaster in Jovenske handle at Autheni (2m 2. soft).

MAJOR SPORSOR found Barton too hor to handle less than but that it more him much. — _ -

3.55 NORMAN DALGETTY HANDICAP CHASE



Stramporty best Master Board & In - Halgeby B call

Stramporty best Master Board & In - Francis London cache at Masselborth (Ser, good in Ren), previously 286 68 of 10 in Lord Of The West on
handloop classe at Doncaste (Sm 21, good). Frest Link Early 23 and of 15
to Hollybank Back in handloop classe at Honocaste (4m 12, good in sub) with Babyline (Sib behar oil) publicate
Profilicat Tower beston a classece is so of 5 to Cours Karmusch in handloop classe at College's (2m, good in Sero), Sologistin 3A
880 of 7 to Sanis College's to be handloop classe at Masselburgh (2m 4, good in Sero), Sologistin 3A
80 of 7 to Sanis College's to be handloop classe at Masselburgh (2m 4) and of 7 to Stozing Deem in
handloop classe at Kelso (2m 11, lazary). REELS LIKE GOLD removely gets the vote over Shanagarry

4.30 SHIP HOTEL, EYEMOUTH HURDLE [SHOWCASE HANDICAP AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE]

(12,032, 21) by 1 (0) (1) (unicis)					
	1	26/124	CRYSTAL GFT 13 (C.B.S) (Mrs L. Whitians) A Whillans 7-11-10	Ê	
٠,	₹.	134715	SCOTIANAL LAD 27 (G.S.) (G Brown & B Welson) G M Moore 5-11-10 N Hannity (5)	62	
	ĕ	-42002	OAT CONTURE 11 (B.B.S) (Astronyment Investments Ltd) L Lungo 11-11-7 A Supple		
	4 :	37-45F	CASH BOX 13 (CD,G,S) (Dr T Wadrop) T Carr 11-11-5	9	
	3 :	232321	RUCHEBURG 20 (D.G.S) (5 Fairbern) F Murtagh 6-10-12		
	6	P330P-	FOSY 388 (CD.F.G) (Taranto De Pol) N Richards 6-10-6	-	
	7 2	211206	DYSART O'DEA 162 (6.5) (Diplomate) W Kemp 6-10-5	1	
	A i	3-4060	KAKASHDA 28 (J Johnson) J Howard Johnson 8-10-0 Cooper (7) 5	4	
	ā:	248020	ROPAMAN CONDIDEST 17 (B & K Associates) M. Hammond 5-10-0 "N Homocks (5) 10	Ä	
	ŏ	LEPOP	SMEDDY LAD 18 (R Shiels) R Shiels 8-10-0	Ö	
i	ĭ	121208	MY SALTARELLO 57 (S) (T Barnes) M Barnes 5-10-0	ĕ	
	•		m. state a day to be the beautiful to second a language of a company of the compa	~	

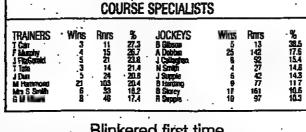
Long Interficaç: Kalasistia S-12. Nomen Conquest 9-11, Smittly Lad 9-10, My Salaseilo 9-6 SETTING: 11-4 Recheturg, 5-2 Dat Coelure, 6-1 Scotrasi Lad, 13-2 Crystal Gill, 8-1 Cryst Box, Norman Com 10-1 Natashda, 12-1 others

1998: CMYOLRIOWN 5-10-0 A S. Smah. (20-1) J. Howard Joneson S. rad
Crystal Bill 111 (Bro d. 8 to Robbo in learnings hardine at Newcastin (2m. 44,
good to sold, previously 112 and of 8 to Cardine in hemicap hardine at Ayr
Com, heavy with Cat. Countine (8th better old) 231 6th. Scortine Lad 344
Sth of 6 to Toronco in norther harding grade 2 all Methertry (2m. good to sold), previously beat Missty Class 11 or
7-turner handings hardin at Wethertry (2m. 4th 10-th carry), Dat Countrie 1141 2nd of 8 to Just Lose in transicap hardin at Cardinle (2m. 11, hervy), Cash Box tell in handings hardin at Newcastin (2m. good) to sold, procestly field 3 his of 17 or Starp Command in handings hardine at Cardinle (3m. 11 1194), good). Rocheburg beat
Who Dares Wess Si & 18-turners sweet hardin at Ayr (2m. 6), solf) with Smiddy Lad (12th better ol) 653 8th.
Toby polled up in handings hadde at Cardinle (3m. 11 1194), good). It to in-th Minister in
novice headings hardin at Alexandria (2m. 4), good). Dysact O'Dea 381 6th of 7 to Tsampa in handings hardin
19-with (2m. 11)(4d. good). Kalassista 371 bilth of 19 to Monoshine Dancies in salings handina hardina if Caterint (2m. 34, good); previously 1944 (6th of 11 to Be Parwe in cond. Jodenys saling handings hardin (2m. sold).
Norman Conquest 227 find of 15 to Ministers and Interface handing handin at Secquelate (2m. 11, good); previously
16 2m of 5 to Martigliano in handings handle at Haydock. (2m. sold) My Setternillo 171 6th of 9 to Handing
Same to handings further at Cateriack (2m. 31, soll).

5.00 RICKERT BETTING AT YORK HANDICAP CHASE (Amateurs: £3,225: 3m 4f) (7 runners) Long hundicap: Sp.inglea Tower 9-7

BETTRIES 2-1 Suprobleton, 3-1 Zambasec, 7-2 Pink Gilo, 4-1 Bright Desirty, 14-1 D'Arbley Street, 16-1 Suproy Leith, 58-1 Springlas Tomes. 1998: SETTER TIMES AHEAD 12-12-0 A Parter (12-1) G Richards 7 ran

Throwner makes APEU 2-12-14 A former (12-1) is interested 7 for 11 10 ptd, 2000, providing health of the 20 on 13-summer amount in the land of the 20 on 13-summer amount headings of the 17 for the 2000, providing from 12 point to stall with D'Arthey Simms 17 for bother off headen a distance 4th and Summy Leith (7th batter off) publicd up. Park Sin IV 2nd of 16 to 17th 10 to ZAMHARÉER stays well and has won to bis arealeur rider



Blinkered first time

Doncaster: 2.00 Willie B Brave. 2.30 Sumo, Children's Choice, 2.30 Prairie Indian, 3.05 Dragons Bay. Kelso: 5.00 Springlea Tower. Newbury:

YESTERDAY'S DONCASTER RESULTS

2.00 Grooving, 2.30 Northern Accord, 3.05 Hang'em Out To Dry, 3.35 Military Academy, 4.10 PROFESSOR COOL (nap), 4.40 James The First, 5.15 Osocool.

Carl Evans: 4.40 Hiltonstown Lass.

GOING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.00 SPROTBROUGH CLAIMING HURDLE

(£1,716: 2m 4f) (12 runners) (£1,710: ZM 41) (12 FURINEYS)

107 (232) DEBLIN RIVER IS (£5,5) J O'SDAS 6-13-0 _ ... Michiasi Brenzan 12 - 422 SROOVING 29 (BF.6,5) J Howard Johnson 10-11-10 A Thomson 103 SPAUL LEAP IN THE DARK B (D.F.5) Miss L Siddel 10-11-6 T Siddel (5) 104 1008 SART CIEL 20 (D.G.S) F Jordan 11-11-8 _ _ _ R Johnson 105 - JURI KREN'S TYPHON 104 (F.6) Miss K Serrys 8-11-1 R Massay 105 POPO ROLE 46 (B.D.F.G.) \$ Repússitase 8-11-4 _ _ ... W Massann 107 5-5P WILLE B BRAVE 18 (B.S.) R Philipps 8-11-4 _ ... W Massann 107 5-5P WILLE B BRAVE 18 (B.S.) R Philipps 8-11-4 _ ... S Curran 100 20PO ANDRALS SUBSET 21 W (Say 7-11-2) _ ... B Tormey 103 27-5 DARCHAE SUBSET 21 W (Say 7-11-2) _ ... B Tormey 103 27-5 DARCHAE SUBSET 21 W (Say 7-11-2) _ ... B Tormey 110 DOWN MEMBERS WELCOME B (S) W Tracing 6-11-0 _ ... Mr C Rae 110 DOWN MEMBERS WELCOME B (S) W Tracing 6-11-0 _ ... Mr M Redigition (5) 112 _ P50 MARD ON THE MILL B4 M Chapman 5-10-9 ... W Worthsquis 14-1 Wide 8

2.30 SOUTH YORKSHIRE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,723: 2m 110yd) (18)

5-1 Dig For Gold, 11-2 General Claremont, Station Gold, 7-1 Other Club, 8-1 Forestry, 10-1 Into Battle, 12-1 Helmstey Files, Dynamic Lord, 14-1 others.

3.05 JOHN BOOTLE MEMORIAL NOVICES HANDI-CAP CHASE (£4,565: 2m 3f 110yd) (9)

5-2 Dan De Man, 4-1 Hang'ern Out To Dry 9-2 Lough Lein Spirit, 5-1 Dragons Bay, 7-1 Chevaher Bayard 16-1 Jülis Joy, 10-1 Out By Night, 33-1 others. NEWBURY

2.10 Corniche. 2.40 Taufan Boy. 3.15 Native Fling. 3.45 Act Of Faith. 4.20 Artadoin Lad. 4.50 Bowles Patrol. 5.25 Stalbridge Bill. Carl Evans: 5.25 Stalbridge Bill

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES)

2.10 HIGHCLERE JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-0: £3,532. 2m 3f) (11 runners) (4-Y-U: £3,532. 277 37) (11 runners)

1 011 FAYEZ 18 (S) K McNet80 11-8

1 011 FAYEZ 18 (S) K McNet80 11-8

1 Williamson 98

1 Exist BOODWOOD COMMUNEN 7 (6F.S) Miss V Williamson 11-4

1 Williamson 98

3 ASMBOX 248F 8 Micros 11-0

4 CAGE AUX FOLLES 15 Net Williams 11-0

5 CORROLLE 17 C Relet 11-0

6 33 MASAMADAS 34 N Henterson 11-0

M A RESparred 10

7 DIS TABENNAZE 2 FC Misson 11-0

M A RESparred 10

8 365 TALES OF BOUNTY 8 D Dissorth 11-0

9 Hospiery (7) 18

10 0 MISS PROCES 14F M Cher 10-9

10 0 MISS PROCES 14F M Cher 10-9

3 TIYE 21 D Williams 10-8

11 3 TIYE 21 D Williams 10-8

14 Commune 7-15 Faver 10-1 propers 2-1 Massynadas, 11-4 Goodwood Cavalier, 7-2 Compte, 7-1 Favez, 10-1 others.

2.40 ARKELL'S 3B BITTER HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,863: 2m 5f) (7)

1 2/46 SHERBITHMUR 69 (C,S) Mrs I. Wadham 10-11-13 3-1 Who Am I, 7-2 Dangerous Guest, 4-1 Tautan Boy, Arctic Charter, 7-1 pitters,

3.15 GEOFFREY GILBEY HANDICAP CHASE (£5,540: 2m 1f) (4)

1 142- EDELWES DU MOULIN 321 (8F.F.G.S) Mess V Williams 7-12-0 2 SF22 MORSTOCK 51 (G.S.) 8 Hodge: 9-10-3 ... Pholory 528 3 1122 MATINE FLINE 21 (BF.D.S.) PHobbs 7-10-2 ... R Widger 53 137 4 1214 BUCKLAND LAD 36 (BF.D.S.) D Grossi 8-10-0 ... N Williamson 138 7-4 Edichnes Du Martin, 11-4 Marsiack, 3-1 Native Flata, 7-2 Recitional Lad.

3.35 DONCASTER RACECOURSE SPONSORSHIP CLUB NOVICES CHASE (£2,902: 3m) (9)

401 3-F1 MELTARY ACADEMY 32 (0.6.5) I Withorns 10-11-9 J Osborns 402 /1U4 SALEMON BREEZ 16 (BF.D.6.5) N Henderson 8-11-9 R Johnson 403 3342 CARLESE BANDHO'S 9 (F.G.) DERTY 7-11-3 B Powel 404 4-75 CHATERGOLD 25 (D.F.G.) A Javies 7-11-3 First Section 8-11-6 R JAVIES 6-11-3 P Never 405 52F TM N BARGARN 20 N Rockards 7-11-3 P Never 406 /PF LUKER BOY 9 J McConnoche 9-11-3 B Bellerny 407 07F SPRITTED STATEMENT 10 S Brookshaw 9-11-3 W Marston 68 21-0 THAIRS NO ANSWER 108 (D.F.) V Davies 16-11-3 G Tormey 409 00P3 AMBER RIWG 18 Mass k George 6-10-12 R Massey 11-10 Salmon Bresse, 11-8 Military Academy, 5-1 Carisle Bandito's, 12-1 others

4.10 WADWORTH HURDLE (£2,583: 2m 4l) (18)

501 2151 MEMSAHR OFESTEEM 14 (CD.G) \$ 604mpt 8-11-7 D Galapher
502 -221 POINTER HOUND 98 (S) 1 Williams 6-11-6 ... R Walder
503 -60 ALTHREY TURICH 50 W Cbr. 7-11-0 ... R Walder
504 -127 ANDYS BRITHDAY 22 (S) Mess 8 Wilson 8-11-1 like N Festing (7)
505 -700 CHUCKLES 245 D Smain 9-11-0 ... R Gauss
506 -DP FEAR SILUL 55 D M Forsia 8-11-0 ... R Gauss
507 3055 ALANTE 1-1 Frederad 6-11-0 ... D Calaphan
508 0-DP MIDAVON MINSTREL 82 D McGhezan 5-11-0 ... A Thornton
509 0-DP MIDAVON MINSTREL 82 D McGhezan 5-11-0 ... A Thornton
510 32-9 MIDAVON MINSTREL 82 D McGhezan 5-11-0 ... A Thornton
511 32-3 PRODESSOR COUL 35 (G) J Medicke 8-11-0 ... M Mession
512 00-P REGAL BUFF 65 J McChamacher 7-11-0 ... R Thornton
513 52-3 STROMS MARIC 35 Mrs. C. Jebnery 7-11-0 ... R Thornton
514 60-0 TELL MINNTY 21 Mas J Brown 7-11-0 ... R Thornton
515 40-0 TELL MINNTY 21 Mas J Brown 7-11-0 ... R Thornton
516 PF-G Wald THE BRUSH ME MIS M Reveloy 5-11-0 ... A Mic G Bornor
516 PF-G Wald THE BRUSH ME MIS M Reveloy 5-11-0 ... M G Bornor
517 00-D ALISANDE 349 J Gross 7-10-0 ... Mis G Bornor
518 33-0 TRIPLE TRUMPH 18 J Newwis 6-10-9 ... B Berdiery
5-2 Pridessol Cool 7-2 Messigho Diezeen 3-1 Poedel Hound, 7-1 piles. 5-2 Professor Cool 7-2 Memorates Diesteem 5-1 Powder Hound, 7-1 others.

4.40 HAMBLETON HILLS HUNTERS CHASE (£1,232: 2m 3f 110yd) (19)

(21,232: 2m 3f 110yd) (19)

601 34-4 FAISTIND 28P (D.P. C Storey 7-12-8 — — Mr N Sutton (7)

602 34-8 GALE TOIL 15 (G.S.) C Elmont (6-12-8 — — Mr N Sutton (7)

603 302- JARLES THE RISTI 684 (E.D.F.C.) E Turn 11-12-8 Mr B Turn 7)

604 50-P KING DF SHADDONS 21 (D.) Micz Carden (5-12-8 Mr B Turn 7)

605 13-P INCHEROM RIDGE 15 (F.E.S.) J Swingelle 12-12-8 Mr B Bovins (7)

606 50-P MY NOZAREE 12P (B.E.S.) J Swingelle 12-12-4 Mr B Bovins (7)

607 1-23 JACK THE TO 48P (6.S.) J Courseal (10-12-4 Mr J B Common (5)

609 60-P MY NOZAREE 12P (B.E.S.) D Noclouds 11-12-4 Mr B Bovins (7)

609 60-P MY NOZAREE 12P (B.E.S.) D Noclouds 11-12-4 Mr B Bovins (7)

610 00-J ARRBARA BOLD 23S (6) F Mathews 11-12-4 Mr B Bovins (7)

611 (P.P. McCarden E 12 P (B.E.S.) D Noclouds 11-2-4 Mr B Dovins (7)

612 (P.P. McCarden E 12 P (B.E.S.) D Noclouds 11-2-4 Mr G Mayeritam (7)

613 FPP DN THE FLY 13P (6) M J Brown 10-12-4 Jack B D DOWGR (7)

614 (P.P. SNOMSHILL SZ 40) E (F. Michelle 9-12-4) — Mr B Homos (7)

615 (P.P. SNOMSHILL SZ 40) E (F. Michelle 9-12-4) — Mr M Kent (7)

617 (P.P. SNOMSHILL SZ 40) E (F. Mastews 10-12-4) — Mr M Kent (7)

618 (P.P. THE MRSTER 12P Mrs. Jackson 10-12-6 ... Mr B T Jackson (7)

619 14-2 HE TONSTOWN LASS 281 (BF,G.S) T Wallord 9-11-13

Mr R Waltond (7)

9-4 Historsionn Less, 5-1 Noofborn Wonder, 11-2 Jack The Td, 8-1 Gale Td, James 9-4 Hiltonstown Lass, 5-1 Nooform Worder, 11-2 Jack The Td, 8-1 Gale Tot, James The First, 10-1 Fausting, Private Jel, 12-1 others.

5.15 DONCASTER MARES ONLY STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (£1,458: 2m 110yd) (11)

4-5 Goodbyne Lady 3-1 Elegani City, 7-1 Donzig Rose, Osocool, 10-1 others. 3.45 ARKELL BREWERY NOVICES HANDICAP

CHASE (£3,727: 3m) (6) 1 P.-14 BELMOREBRUNO 46 (S) M Pipe 9-11-11 ... A P McCoy 105 U-33 ACT OF FAITH 20 (B.U.S) N Sassies 9-11-7 .R Ourwoody 1327 3-513 HARDING 16 (S) S Meller 8-11-5 ... C. Webb 115 4 30-F WRSLEY WARRIOR 15 N Teicton-Cavies 8-11-3 C. L'eveillyn 3 31U1 RAOBE 28 (D.F.E.S.) P Richers 8-11-0 ... N Williamson 121 3462 DUNMICAS VIEW 15 F Tuckers 10-10-2 ... S Burrough 110 9-4 Rano, 5-2 Act Di Fain, 11-2 Harding, 6-1 Belmonsbruno, Wicky Warnot, 8-1 Donnetts View.

4.20 ARDINGTON HOVICES HURDLE

1 F13 ARTADOM LAD 91 (0.6.5) Mrs J Primar 6-11-4 R Dunwoody FRP2
2 47 HARDLY 50 (0.5) Mrs H Knight 6-11-4 J Guilday 108
3 0P ATTO B J King 5-11-0 J Tezzard - 4
06 BARBEZON 90 8 00 Hann 5-11-0 J A MacCarrby - 5
0-34 CLEAR SKES 66 N Sacales E-11-0 C Liewellyn 6
140 GUNNERBLONG 25 (S) 0 Sandonto 6-11-0 Wynne - 7
1/3- POINTED REMARK 444 (87-0.5) N Handerson 8-11-0 M A Ricgerial 9
0 (ND. TEAN BRI EN MAN 480 A Handlacan 8-11-0 N Winne - 19) 4-7 Artedom Lad. 7-2 Hardiv. 7-1 Clear Sides, 8-1 Pointed Restark, 20-1 others.

4.50 JOHNNY HAINE MEMORIAL CONDITIONALS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,058. 2m 5i) (8)

1 5531 DARK ROMANCE 15 (G.S) Miss Z Davison 10-11-10 1 5531 DARK HOMANCE 15 (ELS) Mass Z Davison 10-11-70
2 554 BASSANO 29 J Göltné 5-17-5 ... O Burrows (3) 52
3 0462 DAMP COURSSE 15 N Twiston-Davies 6-11-4 J Goldstein (3) 78
4 1344 BOWNES PARTOL 16 (S) J Dispon 7-10-13 ... G Supple 183
5 3357 JABURI 66 P Hobbs 6-10-10 ... R Widger (3) 78
6 000 MARCINI 78 J Old 6-10-9 ... NEPhani 7 5500 MORE ATHELTE 36 Mt J Phinan 7-10-1 ... C Alsop (10) 80
0 3-P HOW TO RUN 13 D Winsia 6-10-0 ... J Misglord (8) 83 2-1 Danto Course, 9-4 Dark Rossance, 4-1 Bondes Patrol, 5-1 Bassano, 12-1 others.

5.25 PETER HAMER MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE

(£1,660: 3m) (7) 1 31-4 ALL WEATHER 40P (D.F.G.S) Mix D Wilezroith 13-12-5

2 1P-1 STALBRIDGE BILL 18 (D.G.S) J Diolose 9-12-5

Mrs. A Goschen (7) ESB

3 72-2 LOYAL NOTE 18 (D.G.S) S Andrews 11-12-1 Mr S Andrews 8-3

4 F-PO PONTABLILA 13P (D.F.G.S) I Manuers 9-12-1

5 FP-P ROUGH DUEST 20 (8F.D.G.S) T Casey 13-11-9

Mrs. A Charles-Jones (3)
6 43-0 SPUFFRESTON 15 (G.S) N J Pointet 11-11-9 Mr J Terrain (7)

7 - OUU ALSKA 21 (S) P Sentincobe 6-11-4 Miss W Southcombe (7) -

1-2 Rough Quest 7-2 Stallandge Brill, 7-1 Loyal Note, 14-1 All Weather, 33-1 others.

MOTOR RACING

Williams out to regain pole position

FROM KEVIN EASON IN MELBOURNE

on in the room dedicated to the most successful constructor of grand prix cars in history, If Williams is supposed to be a team in crisis — 1998 was its first season without a victory in ten years then Sir Frank Williams refuses to acknowledge it.

Of course he was stung by the ignominy of seeing his cars run in the middle of the pack while McLaren and Ferrari were duelling for the world championship, but one bad season in 20 does not mean that his team is

in danger of collapse. "Last year brought us a season that was bad for the ego," he admitted, "because so many people had put so much mental and physical energy into the car and the team. But you have to take the rough with the smooth. The upside is that a year like that makes you examine what you are doing."

This from a man who had been threatening to turn Formula One into a Williams benefit. Seven seasons had brought constructors' championships, bringing his total to nine - more than

Mansell, Damon Hill and Jacques Villeneuve. By the standards of most other teams, last season was not that bad, for Williams finished in third place, but what really stung Williams and Patrick Head, his long-

any other team - plus drivers'

titles for Alain Prost, Nigel

time partner, was the realisation that their cars were outclassed. The reaction to defeat has been vigorous and no effort has been spared at the factory, which is on the outskirts of the tiny village of

THE signs pointed to the Williams museum, but there were no lights alessandro Zanardi and Ralf Schumacher having replaced Villeneuve and Heinz-Harald Frentzen.

The public's view of Williams is the expressionless face glued to a television monitor. It is impossible to tell, by looking at him, how things are going on the track - but make no mistake, the passion is

there under the surface.
The 24-hour flight to Melbourne, where the season begins on Sunday, is a wearing experience and must be torture for someone confined to a wheelchair and needing constant attention. It

would be surprising if, during it, Williams's thoughts did not stray back to those early days when financial circumstances were so desperate that he had to conduct business from a telephone box because his office phone had been cut off: when mechanics were instructed to "acquire" used tyres from Ferrari. This is the team owner who persisted with Nigel Mansell when the Briton was widely though to be overraied and who was de-

termined to harness the maverick brilliance of Ayrton

Williams also has a gambling streak, which is why he is willing to take a chance on Zanardi and Schumacher, Zanardi, twice CART (IndyCar) champion is largely an unknown quantity in Formula One; Schumacher, Michael's erratic brother, spent much of last season ploughing his Jordan into the gravel traps.

Williams is banking on their con-trasting qualities to help inspire a revival in a season that he refuses to accept as an interim one until the Grove. Oxfordshire. This season's arrival of new BMW engines for



Zanardi, left, and Ralf Schumacher, the drivers Williams has chosen to carry the standard this season

2000. This season's Renault-based Supertec engine is improved, though almost certainly will still not be a match for the Mercedes, of McLaren, or Ferrari, which means that the drivers will have to rely on the chassis and aerodynamics redressing the balance, particularly on the twistier, low-speed circuits, such as Hungary.

"Alex is a charming individual." Williams said, "while Ralf is very intense. He is also a very aggressive driver. Alex, at times, has not been so quick in testing, but over a race distance, there is not much between them. People had told me

throughout 1997 to watch Alex in CART and he impressed me a lot because he seems a real fighter. We are taking a bit of a chance with him, but not much. With Ralf, you see a driver who had his problems but can only get better."

The big question is whether the team as a whole can get better and so relegate last season to a mere blip in the history of a remarkable organisation. Williams is anticipating closer racing than for some years, with Jordan, Benetton and, possibly, the brash British American Racing team, making an

After more than 330 grands prix, he is eager to start racing again. "I am waiting with some impa-tience," he said. "We have worked hard on what we think could be a special car, but we will have no idea how good it is until that first qualifying session. Then the con-test really will have started."

LINKS

TELEVISION: Tomorrow Qualifying, 2.15pm. Sunday: The race live, 2am (repeated at 11.05am, highlights 11.45pm).

ATHLETICS

British meeting continues to drop in status

FROM DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN MAEBASHI, JAPAN

athletics meeting has been down-graded to third-division status by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF). The British Grand Prix, a member of the elite division until the formation of the Golden League last year, has been relegated for the second successive season and has slipped outside the world's top 15 meetings for the first

After winning the men's European Cup and topping the European championships medals table last year, Britain entered 1999 as the No 2 track and field nation in the world, looking up only to the Unit-ed States. Yet, in the league table of prix final drops with each division.

LINKS

meetings, Britain has dropped behind Qatar, famous for its pearls but not its athletes. However, for

those who run the sport in Britain, there were mitigating circumstances last year. The collapse of the British Athletic Federation in October 1997 left them with an interim governing body and without the finances to under-

pin a top quality meeting.

The British Grand Prix, formerly held at Crystal Palace but more recently at Sheffield, was omitted from the wealthy Golden League when it began in 1998. Under the new structure, the first division effectively became the second division. Now Sheffield has been relegated from grand prix I to II and Britain's other IAAF summer international, at Gateshead, a grand prix 11 meeting, booted out of the league altogether.

"We are obviously very disappointed, but we are determined to get straight back to grand prix I and grand prix II status." David Moorcroft, the chief executive of UK Athletics, the new governing

body, said yesterday. It is understood that Dr Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president, offered the BBC a chance to preserve Britain's grand prix I status in return for a \$1 million purchase of television rights to the Golden

GREAT Britain's most prestigious League, but this was refused. Towards the end of last year, the IAAF indicated Sheffield's fate. but suggested that there might be room for manoeuvre. Yesterday, though, Istvan Gyulai, the IAAF secretary, said on the eve of the world indoor championships here that a letter was on its way to Moorcroft confirming the down-

grading. Sheffield had failed, Gyulai said, to meet the standards required to retain its grand prix I status. The lower status will make it more difficult to attract athletes as the number of points available

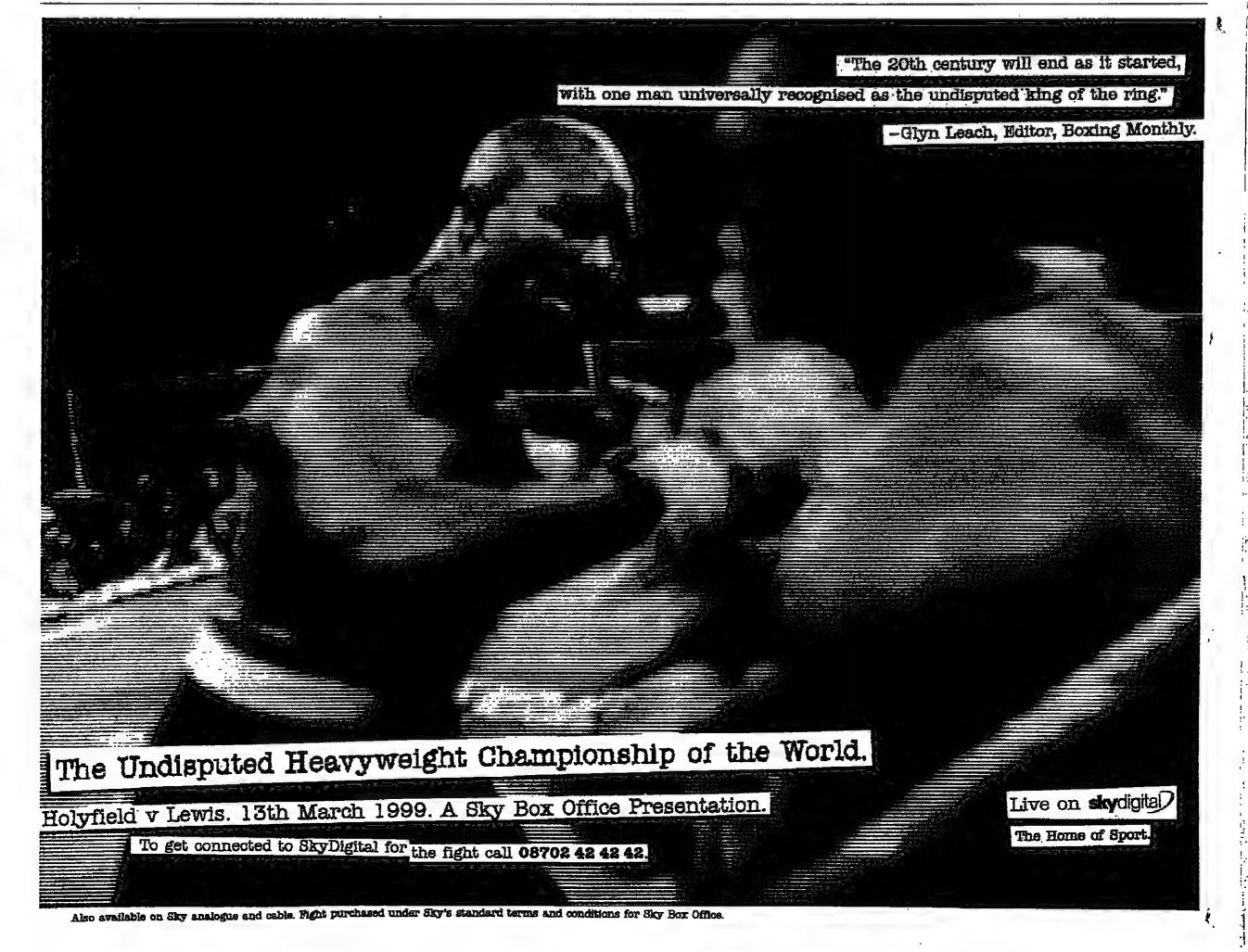
have to be spent in appearance fees and prizemoney. Nevertheless, Britain is better equipped to deal with the

summer ahead and Moorcroft was pleased with the British indoor grand prix in Birmingham last

month, promoted by Fast Track.
"The BUPA grand prix proved what we can do," Moorcroft said.
"We felt that last year's results were an exception and we gave the IAAF every assurance that we have the finances and infrastructure to merit grand prix status, but this was not enough.

It was not all bad news for Britain yesterday. Nebiolo said that a decision on where to stage the 2003 world championships would be delayed at least until November. The British bid for London is stuck in the blocks. waiting for the completion of the sale of Wembley Stadium.

Max Jones, Britain's performance director, expressed the hope that the athletes would maintain the momentum from 1998. In six previous world indoor championships, Great Britain has won only three gold medals. Jones is hoping for four bere — from Ashia Hausen, in the triple jump, Colin Jackson, in the 60 metres hurdles, Jamie Baulch, in the 400 metres, and the men's 4 x 400 metres team.



FOR A fourth summer of the

LIB Super League to produce a

different winner would in-

volve Wigan Warriors, the

1998 champions, being cast as

one-hit wonders - a danger-

ous assumption to make of any side coached by John Monie. Nevertheless, they face

a more formidable challenge

from Leeds Rhinos, who were

runners-up last year, with a resurgent Bradford Bulls

Cynics argued that St

Helens and Bradford won the first two Super League titles

may have overtaken them.

the top five make this the most

unpredictable season for

years. Rather than being domi-

nated by one superpower, the

league has three, in Leeds,

Wigan and Bradford, with

significant strides being taken

by Warrington Wolves and

With two former Great Brit-

ain coaches back from Austral-

ia in Ellery Hanley, at St Hel-

ens, and Malcolm Reilly, at

Huddersfield Giants, another

club that has caught the ambi-

tious mood despite finishing

bottom last year, there is no

shortage of the determination

necessary to withstand an ex-

tended 30-match programme.

One of the few disappoint-

ments of the season, which

starts when Wigan play Hull

Sharks at home tonight, is that

the advancements made by

playing once a week are being

compromised by the addition

of seven further fixtures, with

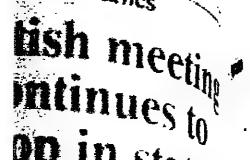
the introduction of Catesbead

Thunder and Wakefield Trini-

ty to a 14 team competition

Castleford Tigers.

joining the fray.



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RUGBY LEAGUE Wigan prepare for challenge from their peers



because Wigan let their standards slip, an impression that was corrected by Wigan last Wigan, for instance, meetseason. However, one of sever-al optimistic signs for the sport three times before the playoffs. By the time that the Great is that the rest are catching Wigan up; in the case of Leeds, Britain squad heads off to Australia and the autumn series under Graham Murray, they with that country and New Zealand - presuming that all The successful introduction wrinkles are ironed out by the of the play-offs last year, com-Rugby League International bined with as many as a dozen Federation next week - Andy clubs who can reasonably lay Goodway, the Britain coach, claim to the position among will be in a familiar position of

> some tired players. Super League Europe has to make the game pay and attract new sponsors to replace JJB after this season. It has launched a raunchy advertising campaign directed at the female market, which is in danger of confusing rugby

trying to coax the best out of

The final countdown

The top live clubs play all remails and qualifying play-offs. The top been in the Super-League is rewarded by having to win only one play-off to seech the Grand Firet, at Old Teatroot on October 9. For the fitth-placed club to become champions, they would have to best all the teams above them ROUND ONE (Sept. 17-19): Elimination play-off: lourin v little. Qualifying play-off: second v third.

ROUND TWO (Sept 24-28): Elimination sent-final: qualifying play-off losery elimination play-off winner. Qualifying sent-final: first y qualifying play-off winner. ROUND THREE (Oct 3): Elimination qualitying semi-final loser v simm

and a series of "box-office" PRIZE-BONEY: Winner: 275.000 Fur-midweek matches. Leeds and troops of the 20,000. Fourth:

league with a "ladies night" event. Because it was good for business in Australia does not necessarily mean it will have the same impact here.

Nonetheless, season-ticket sales are up across the board. It may not sound much, but, in these turbulent times for many professional sports. rugby league has the benefit of stability, both in financial terms, with a revised television contract up to 2003, and the knowledge that "sum-mer" is established as the accepted season for the leading competition.

With talk of breakaways

and feuds now over, the new feel is down principally to the entry of Gateshead and the professional manner in which it has been set up. A demanding season will put strains on squads, but also bring to the fore names such as Kevin Sinfield and Karl Pratt, at Leeds, and Leon Pryce and Paul Deacon, at Bradford, as British stars of the future.

By the play-offs, Wigan will have said farewell to Central Park after 97 years and moved to the 25,000-seat stadium taking shape at Robin Park - a symbol of change in a game that is heading, albeit slowly, in the right direction.

Arguably the most famous number in rugby league - the 102,569 spectators at Odsai. who watched the 1954 Challenge Cup final replay between Warrington and Halifax - will disappear from the record books tomorrow.

All 110,000 tickets have been sold for the opening Australian National Rugby League double-header, between Manand Newcastle and St George-Iliawarra and Parramatta, which marks the opening of Stadhum Australia, the venue for the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney.

LINES



Retief Goosen plays his opening shot of the first round in Penina yesterday on his way to a 68 and a share of second place, two shots behind Smyth

Smyth's old-time sorcery spells trouble for rivals

FROM MEL WEBB IN PENINA, PORTUGAL

AS A rule, sport is demonstrably the province of the young and vigorous, but on the European tour no truck is countenanced with such ageist notions. In golf, if you're good enough, you're young enough and yesterday callow youth was left hyperven-tilating as one of the game's senior citizens showed them as clean a pair of heels as they will ever see.

المكذاب الذها

Like Old Father Thames, Des Smyth just keeps rolling along. He is one of only eight still regularly playing European Tour events whose membership began in the days of pre-qualifying, the Russian roulette system under which competitors had to play their way into tournaments on the Mondays preceding them.

They were old-time hustlers, this brave little band, men who put their talents on the line in a hand-to-mouth existence that risked all and guaranteed nothing. Cruel though it undoubtedly was, those who survived were imbued with a toughness and a resilience that continue to serve them well, even as their golfing dotage draws

Smyth is a case in point. Yesterday was the 46th year and twentieth day of his life, which makes him the second-oldest man in the field at the Portuguese Open, but there was nothing remotely venerable about his golf, a 66 giving him a twostroke lead on a course on which preferred lies are being used because of a lack of consistent growth on the fairways.

Throughout his career, Smyth, who

on and around the greens. Give him a wedge or a putter and ask him to demonstrate what he can do with it, then marvel as everything short of a Rachmaninov piano concerto will issue forth. It was with the short-distance clubs that he built his six-under-oar score. He chipped in twice for two of his seven bird-

played his 500th European Tour event at

the Dubai Desert Classic three weeks ago,

has been possessed of a sorcerer's touch

ies and took only 24 putts. Come to think of it, perhaps that snatch of music that waited across the course in mid-morning might have been the big Rachmaninov number after all. The Irishman was, naturally, quietly

pleased with himself, but he has been around too long to get carried away. "An awful lot can happen between now and Sunday," he said. "This was just one good round, that's all." Having played indifferently in his first

two appearances of the season, he said that he had scared himself into playing well in the face of ever-improving standards being produced by the next generation. "The 66 was due less to confidence. more to fear," he said. "These days I feel like a hare in a coursing race." He will probably be caught today.

hounds being the dogged sorts they are. But for now, it did not matter; for now, it was Hare 66, Hounds 68 or worse.

Scores, page 48

US-based Swede in Ryder Cup picture

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN MIAMI

EVEN six months before the event, the Ryder Cup is dominating golf. Ben Crenshaw is taking a high profile as he seeks to whip up enthusiasm and support for his United States team at Boston in September. Meanwhile, a little-known name has forced itself into the list of of candidates for the Europe team. Mention the name Gabriel Hjertstedt to most followers of the game in Great Britain and they probably would not have a clue who he is. That could be about to

While all eyes were on the World Match Play Championship in La Costa, California last week, Hjeristedt was winning a tournament in Tucson, Arizona, for those players on the US PGA Tour not ranked in the world's top 65. It was his second victory in North Ameri-

ca. In 1997, he won the BC Open. Yesterday, he coped well with the famed Blue Monster course in the opening round of the Doral-Ryder Open, still on a high after his victory on Sunday. That gave me a lot more confidence," he said. "When I started today. I thought to myself: This is a new week. Go for it. " A 69, three under par, put him a stroke behind the early leaders -Esteban Toledo. Doug Barron and Olin Browne. Jesper Parnevik had a 71, Thomas Bjorn a 72 and Nick Faido a 73. Hjertstedt, 27, is slight, quietly-

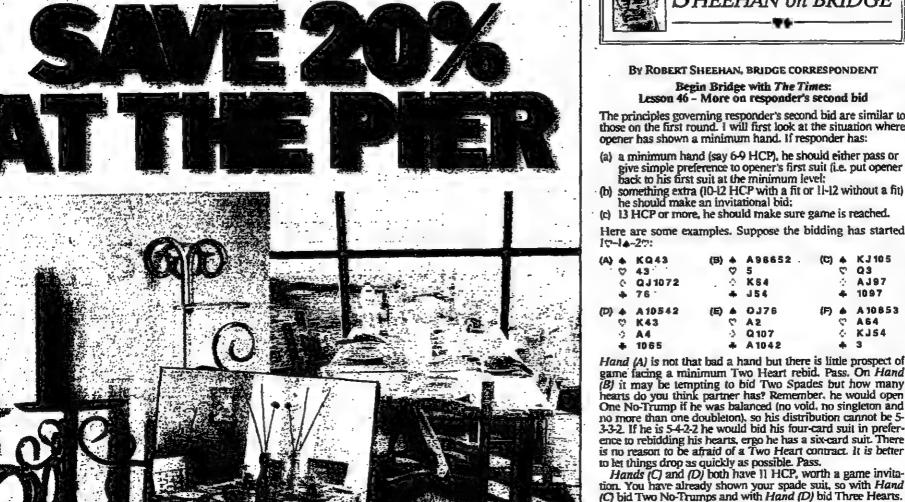
spoken and, being dark-halred, looks more American than Swedish. Though born in Sweden, he lived in Australia for 12 years before moving first to the West Coast of the United States and then to Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. He believes that he needs to win

at least one more tournament over here to come into the reckoning for Mark James's Europe team, for which he is eligible as a member of the European Tour. "If I do so, I will certainly have a chance," he said. "I would love to play in it. I think it would be nerve-racking. but I would like to see some of the fellows I played junior golf with

Faldo salvaged what was a disappointing round by single-putting his last three greens and taking birdies on two of the holes. There was a testing wind to add to the difficulties of this 7,125-yard course where Faldo won in 1995 when he rejoined the US PGA Tour. Such victories seem a long time ago now. He was muttering to himself as he strode off in the direction of the putting green and practice ground having confessed: "I am still not hitting it full blast."

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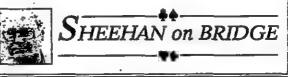
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CHANGING TIMES



By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent Begin Bridge with The Times:

The principles governing responder's second bid are similar to those on the first round. I will first look at the situation where opener has shown a minimum hand. If responder has:

(a) a minimum hand (say 6-9 HCP), he should either pass or give simple preference to opener's first suit (i.e. put opener back to his first suit at the minimum level; (b) something extra (10-12 HCP with a fit or 11-12 without a fit)

(c) 13 HCP or more, he should make sure game is reached.

Here are some examples. Suppose the bidding has started

/A) A	KQ43	/B)		A98652 .	(C)		KJ 105
	43	(0)		5	(4)		Q3
	QJ1072			K54		_	AJ97
	76			J54		4	1097
(D) 4	A10542	(E)	٠	0376	(F)	٠	A 10853
	K43		Ç	A2		ζ_{2}	A 6 4
- 3	A4		-3	Q 107		Ç.	KJ54
	1065		*	A 1042		*	3

game facing a minimum Two Heart rebid. Pass. On Hand (B) it may be tempting to bid Two Spades but how many hearts do you think partner has? Remember, he would open One No-Trump if he was balanced (no void, no singleton and no more than one doubleton), so his distribution cannot be 5-3-32. If he is 5-4-2-2 he would bid his four-card suit in preference to rebidding his hearts, ergo he has a six-card suit. There is no reason to be afraid of a Two Heart contract. It is better to let things drop as quickly as possible. Pass.

tion. You have already shown your spade suit, so with Hand (C) bid Two No-Trumps and with Hand (D) bid Three Hearts. Hands (E) and (F) are similar but a little stronger. Now you want to ensure that game is reached so bid Three No-Trumps and Four Hearts respectively.

These hands have been relatively straightforward because the right denomination has been fairly clear. This has meant

that you could either bid game or make a sensible limit bid, depending on your values. It is not always as easy as that Next week I will look at some examples of how to investigate further when you are not sure what trumps should be. ☐ You can get any lesson you may have missed from this

beginners' course by sending two 26p stamps per lesson (or five stamps per set of five) to Sally Brock. 73 Toneridge Lane. High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 7QA. Don't forget to state which ones you want.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PISOLITHS a. Kidney stones b. Leaning columns c. Rock particles

STERADIAN

a. Denture cleanser b. Geometrical quantity c. Starlit satellite

CISEAUX PAS a. A ballet step b. A false move c. The opening bid

COUVADE a Lingerie b. Espionage c Natal ritual

Answers on page 50



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT Psyched out

Garry Kasparov, the world champion, continued his winning ways in the ninth round of the elite tournament at Linares by dispatching Vassily Ivanchuk for the second time. Kasparov now leads with 7/9, a colossal score in a tournament of this strength, by a 114 point margin over his closest rival. Vladimir Kramnik, the

Russian grandmaster. However, the most striking thing about Kasparov's win against Ivanchuk is that the Ukrainian grandmaster, awed by Kasparov's dominating presence at the board, may have resigned prematurely. White: Garry Kasparov Black: Vassily Ivanchuk Linares 1999

Queen's Gambit Acce					
1	d4	d5			
2	DIE	dxc4			
3	Nf3	e6			
4	6.7	¢5			
5	Bxc4	a6			
6	0-0	N ₁ 6			
7	Bb3	Nc6			
8	Nc3	cud4			
9	exd4	Be7			
10	Re1	0-0			
12		Na5			
12	Bc2	b5 -			
13	d5	Nc4			
14	Qd3	ReS			
15	a4	නය්5			
16	axb5	a5			
17	b3	Nd6			
18	Nd4	Bb7			
19	3	Rc8			
20	Na4	Bf8			
21	8g5	g6			
22	Qd2	Roc1+			
23	Rei	Nde8			
24	Re2	Bb4			
25	Qe3	Rc7			
26	Bd3	Re7			
27	Oc1	Rxe2			
28	Bxe2	Qe7			
		-			

Qxe3+ Nd7 Bxe3 Nc6 bxc6 Bb6 Bac6 NbS Bd6

Nc3 Bf2 Nd5 Black resigns Diagram of final position

Saving clause Here Ivanchuk resigned, assuming that after 36 ... Nxc6 (if Black cannot play this, then his position really is hopeless) 37 Bb5 White would win a piece. However, after 36 ... Nxc6 37 Bb5 Nb4! 38 Nxb4 Nd6 White can do no better than 39 Bd3 axb4 40 Bxd4 when White is certainly better.

abcdefg

but Black can continue to Score recap Full scores out of nine are as follows: Kasparov 7; Kramnik 51/4: Anand 5: Adams 41/4: Topalov and Leko 4; Svidler and

Ivanchuk 3. Keene online

You can send me your queries. puzzles, problems and games direct by e-mail. The address is keenechess@aol.com. The best contributions from Times readers will be published either here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column. Raymond Keene writes on

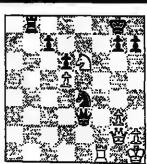
chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Weiss - Deshmukh, Elista 1998. With his extra pawn and active pieces. Black seems to be doing well but White's next move forced a revision of this assessment. How did he continue?

Solution on page 50



European Cup: Ferguson eyes semi-final place after fine display at Old Trafford

United look forward to next hurdle

ALEX FERGUSON could relax yesterday, seemingly surrounded by the riches of Croesus. The official launch of his testimonial had heralded a year that will see him add at least £1 million, nox free, to his salary as manager of Manchester United. And then there was the wealth accrued by his team the pre-vious night, as they banked a 2-0 victory in the first leg of their Euro-pean Cup quarter-final against

It was a typically daredevil triumph by this United side, who toyed with a 5-0 rout as well as late disaster, but they did enough to convince most inside Old Trafford, and quite probably the San Siro. that the semi-finals beckon. Ferguson would not admit as much yes-terday, but his satisfaction was as transparent as Inter's plummeting morale. "We will score over there." Ferguson insisted for at least the fifth time since Wednesday night and he is adamant that not even the return of Ronaldo can threaten his side's well-carned advantage.

He is probably right and such was the self-belief fostered by United's triumph at a bubbling Old Trafford that the mind could not stop racing ahead to the tests that may lie ahead. The route to the final in Barcelona on May 26 is already being plotted, with Bayern Munich, Juventus and Dynamo Kiev the most likely possible semi-final opponents.

All are clubs of impressive stature, but the style of the victory on Wednesday night has thrown up tantalising thoughts that United can match, and beat, the best. It is not just in Ferguson's eyrie at The Cliff training ground that such presumptuous calculations are taking place. The Football Association's international sub-committee refuses to accept the Scotsman's protestations that not only is he reluctant to manage England, but incapable of it because of his Govan breeding.

The committee men cling to the hope that he and Brian Kidd can be persuaded to resume their coaching partnership if United win the European Cup. A few minutes with Ferguson yesterday would have persuaded them that they are wasting their time. First, there was the unveiling of a testimonial year that will not be quite the same if the principal beneficiary has jumped ship. More significantly, there were Fer-guson's words, which undermined the notion that the first thing he will do upon lifting the European Cup is look for pastures new, if not retire altogether after 25 years in management. "Are you saying that you wake

up the next morning, and all of a sudden your work is finished?" he said. "I enjoy working, it's the best part of your life." On Wednesday night, it was not hard to imagine that he had one of the best jobs imaginable. It was not United at their best — they would have won by five if Giggs and Cole had been on tar-get — but there was enormous comfort to be drawn from the displays of Peter Schmeichel, Dwight Yorke and David Beckham. Beckham's performance was notable not just for the excellence of his passes, two of which furnished Yorke with his headed goals, but for the strength with which he handled his reunion with Diego Simeone.

It was the England international who initiated the swapping of shirts with his Argentinian counter-part after the game — "I will probably frame it," he said - and he chatted afterwards as though he was at ease with the world. "That ends it all, I hope." he said and perhaps now even opposing fans in the FA Carling Premiership will allow his talent to breathe a little easier. Beckham thought United had "probably done enough" to look forward to the semi-finals, although the Inter revival in the final half-hour suggested that the second leg will not be without its dramas.

The Italians came close to snatching a precious away goal and United's inability to close a match down remains a maddening flaw. There are signs, though, that, like Beck-ham, the team is maturing. They are less prone to the loss of discioline that Ottmar Hitzfeld, the Borussia Dortmund coach, put down to them wanting European success too much and although harder tests await than Inter, Unit-





Consistent goalscorers such as Yorke, left, celebrating with Beckham, and Shevchenko are worth their weight in gold to their teams

precisely

Shevchenko sets goal standard

goalscorer has never been more earnest than in the European Cup. Be it Yorke, Andrei Shevchenko, Filippo Inzaghi or Giovane Elber — each of whom scored on Wednesday night — the mathematical fact is that he who scores the first goal does not lose the game in Europe. That holds good for 84 per cent of the 76 matches played this season.

Small wonder that Manchester United feel vindicated by the £12 million fee that they paid for Yorke and that Dynamo klev have resisted more than £15 million for Shevchenko. It is the ability of Yorke to remain composed when opportunity knocks, the cold nerve Shevchenko to finish where others freeze, that makes them

exceptions in a team sport.

If United and Kiev press home their advantage in the second legs of their quarter-final ties, and if they avoid each other in the semi-finals, who knows how much the value of those two players will rise by the time of the final in Barcelona in May?

It is an inexorable law of the football business that goals are gold in the bank, but, just as Yorke can put

them in only when someone provides the ball as exquisitely as David Beckham, so Shevchenko relies on an almost telepathic partnership. In the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, lan St John, who preceded the remarkable duo of Kevin Keegan and John Toshack at Liverpool, had some telling observa-tions after Toshack's Real Madrid were held I-I at home by Kiev.

"He's some striker, Shevchenko, but the other one is the better player," St John said. "The other one, Sergei Rebrov, is a Russian among Ukrainians. He does not have the startling pace, the greed for goals or the athletic stamina of Shevchenko, yet Rebrov is the Ukraine player of the year for the second time. What Rebrov does better than Shevchenko is share the ball. He sees more, he instigates more and, although Shevchenko has scored 15 goals in 25 European Cup games, Rebrov created the opening for him again this week.

"I can find my partner with my eyes closed," Rebrov had said, and this time he probably did. It was route one football, the ball kicked long by Olexander Shovkosky, the goalkeeper, and Rebrov, all 5ft 6in

Hendrie bides his time in quest for glory

of him, outjumping Fernando Hierro, the big Real Madrid de-fender. That released Shevchenko - who, of course, had to anticipate his team-mate leaping so high — one-on-one with Bodo Illgner, the Real Madrid goalkeeper. No con-test. Shevchenko scored low and

Though Predrag Mijatovic, whose goal won the European Cup final last season, equalised with a free kick, Real Madrid missed further chances that fell to Mijatovic, Morientes and Raúl. In the second leg, when Kiev should be thawing out, Real Madrid will need the kind of inspiration that Juventus found last year to turn a 1-1 home leg draw into a 5-2 aggregate win.

nzaghi scored for Juventus three times in Kiev, but only once in the Stadio delle Alpi on Wednesday, where Olympiakos forced a late penalty to go home with only a 2-l deficit. "We came off the pitch physically and morally destroyed." Inzaghi said. We deserved more and I could have scored twice more, but the referee allowed four minutes of injury time and the penalty came

in the sixth minute. We will have to show our team spirit in Greece." In Germany there is one truly

captivating striker, and he is Brazilian. Like Yorke, like Shevchenko, Elber comes alive under Europe's big lights and, on the half-hour, with a typical volley, he began Bayern Munich's 2-0 defeat of Kaiserslautern.

They are the better team, that's obvious." Otto Rehhagel, the Kaiserslautern trainer, said, "but the fear that Bayern would totally outclass us didn't happen and it does not mean we can't qualify." However, Rehhagel senses that the loss of Olaf Marschall, his main goalscorer, from the first leg, and probably through the same knee injury for the return match, could dull Kaiserslautern's edge.

In Europe, as the facts demon-strate, you are lost without the presence of a genuine striker and someone to trigger him. So while Grigory Surkis, the Kiev chalr-man, discusses the price for Shevchenko with AC Milan, a really smart and really rich buyer might offer Ukraine's champion club £30 million for Shevchenko and Rebrov. It is only money and the European Cup appears some-

FOOTBALL IN BRIEF Villa end of Stubbs

balanc

wecta

ASTON VILLA have called off their attempt to sign Alan Stubbs, the Celtic central defender. Villa increased their offer from E3.25 million to £4.25 million, but Celtic refused to budge from their original asking price of £6.5 million.

John Gregory, the Villa manager, said: "I've said all along that I will not be held to ransom

pursuit

over this or any other deal. As far as I'm concerned, the deal is dead We made our final offer. Celtic said they were not prepared to drop their price and we will now be looking elsewhere."

If Chelsea and Munchester United draw their FA Cup quarter-final at Old Trafford on Sunday, they will play the replay only three days later. The second game will take place at Stamford Bridge on March 10, replacing Chelsea's match against Middlesbrough and Manchester United's game away to Liverpool in the FA Carling Premiership. The move has been made because of the clubs' involvement in Europe, when any replay should have been played. E Steve Stone, the unsettled Nottingham Forest midfield

player, has reiterated his desire to leave the City Ground. "When I signed my last contract, I said I wanted to be at a club with the same ambition as me — a club which thought it was going places. For whatever reasons, that hasn't happened," he said. Forest are still hopeful of signing Richard Gough, the former Rangers

Paul Gascoigne, the Middlesbrough midfield player, has been suspended for one match and fined £2,000 by the Football Association for reaching 11 bookings this season: Martin O'Neill, the Leicester City manager, is confident that Emile Heskey, the England Under-21 striker, will be fit to face Tottenham Hotspur in the Worthington Cup final on March 21. A scan on the back injury that has dogged Heskey for the past three months revealed no serious damage.

Lyngby, the Danish club, have rejected an offer of £1.5 million from Simularland for Carsten Fredgaard, a 22-year-old attacking midfield player.

Alan Curbishley, the Charlton

Athletic manager, has been named Carling Manager of the Month for February after a four-match unbeaten run.

rest of his internationals back to

I he builders are still in at Barnsley. Yellow dump trucks groaned their way up and down hills of soil at Oakwell yesterday as work continues on the improvement of the stadium. Mud caught in the wheels of

the players' BMW's and Toyota Land Cruisers as they sped away into the Yorkshire gloom. The bigtime bestowed plenty of benefits on the club during its doomed but feisty one-season flirtation with the FA Carling Premiership. Tomorrow, the big time is back in town. Not to linger like it did before, but like a long-lost love on a flying visit. The cold touch of real-

been kind to them and this morn-

ing, far from pressing for an imme-

diate return to the top flight, they

ity has invaded the romanticism that clung to Barnsley last season as they fought to avoid relegation. The Nationwide League has not

lie sixteenth in the first division. They still have 14,000 loyal season ticket-holders and a warmth and courtesy uncommon even in the football clubs of the North, but they have not scored for the past four games, have lost their two best players. Ashley Ward and Neil Redfearn, and their manager,

Danny Wilson, who is master-

minding Sheffield Wednesday's

tentative revival a few miles away. Their hopes this season rest now on the evident ability and candour of John Hendrie, their impressive young manager, and on the visit of Tottenham Hotspur tomorrow. A place in the FA Cun semi-finals is at stake, an honour that eluded them even in their glory days.



Barnsley are coping with life outside the Premiership

They did beat Manchester United in the competition last season, on a memorable night at Oakwell when Hendrie was one of the scorers. He has exiled those memories from his mind, though. Wilson

atom: Osier-Green bpd St. Anne's, Corpus Christ lopd St. Anne's; Wolfson bpd Linacre. Christ Church III bpd Pembroke & Pe

was a folk hero in Barnsley, the man who led the side, against all odds and to the astonishment of the football community at large, into the promised land amid the fat cats and billion-dollar corporations. Nothing Hendrie does can equal such an impact. Once Barnsley succumbed to the

drop, in fact, and lost all the television money that comes with Premiership status, they were condemned to a lowering of their sights. Those who expected them to go straight back up have been swiftly distillusioned, but Hendrie has refused to lose his composure. "People say that it must have been hard following Danny Wilson," he said yesterday in one of



Hendrie: realistic approach

the executive suites overlooking Oakwell, "but I do not live in the shadow of anyone. You have just got to be your own man and do it your own way. That was a different era and I was lucky enough to

play a big part in it. The supporters here are not content with what is happening now. They have had a taste of the big time and they want more. There is a high expectancy level and there is no way that we will settle for the Nationwide "But you have to remember that

Danny was here for four years and he didn't get it right for the first two. It won't happen overnight for me either. I have been in the game all my life and I am not muggins enough to think like that. If some thought we would go straight back up. I was not one of them."

Tomorrow, George Graham will bring David Ginola, Steffen Freund, Darren Anderton and the

Barnsley as they try to move closer to a second Wembley appearance this season. For Hendrie, fresh from his latest reverse, the 1-0 home defeat by Bradford City on Wednesday, the game represents a welcome respite from league woes and another chance to advance his managerial education. "It has been a pretty steep learn-

1310

official:

Page 1

ing process," he said. "I did not even have a wee bit of an apprenticeship. The biggest shock was the amount of hours I have had to put in. At times, it means you can't have any family life. I realise now that, for the 18 years of my playing career, I was on my holidays. You don't realise how lucky you are."

Tomorrow, against a Spurs team sweeping all before them in the cups, the hard work is likely to become even harder.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Derby Storm 83 BUDWEISER LEAGUE Derby Storm 83.
Leacester Ridders 81.
MATRONAL ASSOCIATION (MBA): Phie-delphia 102: Chicago 86; Washington 95.
Inclaina 105; Orlando 93. Charlotte 76.
Mariaulice 105 Golden State 78, Ulain 109.
Vancouver 86, Los Angeles Leiters 107 Prios-no. 95, Sacramento 93 Portland 97 (OT).

EXCEPTION

EXECUTION

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: First day of four: Bristiane: Victora 188 (B J Hodge 71). Outersland: 83-6 Sydney: New South Wales 312-5 fM G Bevan 128 not out. Since 69, MA Taylor 61) v South Australia Perfit: Western Australia 30-5 (M E Hussey 125 not out. T M Moody 109) v Tasmarna.

FOOTBALL

Cup Winners' Cup Quarter-final, first leg I. 160SCOW (0) 3 M HAFA Dztanastia 47, 77, 89 30,000 Wednesday's late results

EUROPEAN CUP: Cuarter-finels, first leg: Bayern Munich 2 Kasersleutern 0; Juverius 2 Olympiekos 1; Men Uid 2 Inter-nazonale C, Real Madid 1 Dynamo Kiev 1 FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Shelkeld Wednasday I Windledon 2.
NATIONNIDE LEAGUE First division:
Barrisky 0 Bracticod 1, QPR 1 Oxford Utd 0,
Swindon 2 Trainfers 3
TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP: Fourth TENDENT'S SCOTTEN CUP: Fourth round: Chydsbark 2 Dundse Urd 2. RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Departure and Recthodge 4 Hampton 0. HiGHLAND LEAGUE Fracerburgh 3 Kesh 4. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Bulgare 2 Stowls of (in Stara Zagora), Poland 1 America 0 (in Warsaw), Romane 2 Estone 0 (in Ruchwest). PENNA, Portugai: Leading first-round scores (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 68: D Smyth 68: R Goosen (SA), M A Jimena; (So), K Tornon (Japani, S Lufia (Sp), F Jacobson (Swe), J Van de Velde (Fr) 69: F Valers (So), S Tornone, D Gillord, M Scarps (It), R Karlsson (Swe), 70: S Webster, J Rwaro (Sp), I Garbutt, R May (US), R Winchester 71: A Oldcorn, P Lewrie, A Coltant, A Cepta (Ger), P Fulke (Swe), A Waii, J Bedeston, R Bosal, P Michel, C Hainline (US), A Johnstone (Zen), M Jonzon (Swe), H Clark, J Frose, F Ces (Sp), R Wessels (SA), P Affact, P Linhart (Swe)

ICE HOCKEY SEKONDA SUPPERLEAGUE: Ayr Scotteh Eagler, 4 Nevicastle Riverkings 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NPLL: Buffelo 3 Edmonton 5, Carolina 2 Boston 1. Plonde 5 Colorado 7, Pitsburgh 4 Montreal 4 (OT); Toronio 2 New Jersey 5: Vancouver 3 San Jose 4, Anahem 2 Los Angeles 1

OXFORD TORPIDS MEN: First division: Pembroks bpd Onel; Christ Church bpd Magdaten, Baster bpd Brasanous; Woroaster bpd Brasanous; Cueen's bpd Lincohn, St Cattlenne's bpd University, Second division: Marton bpd

University, Second divisions Menton bod Trinity, St Peter's bod St John's, LMH bod St John's; Keble bod Henford Third divi-

RUGBY UNION CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University 19 Penguns 52, Oxford University 36 Oxford-shre 31, Rosslyn Park 21 Royal Navy 19.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL Kick-off 7.30 unless stated Nationwide League

Third division Cardiff v Chester LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberyshwyh v TNS FAI HARP SENIOR CHALLENGE CUP-Quarter-dinet: Galway v SI Patrick's Athleho (7.45)

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Presider division. Lverpool v Notingham Forest
FA PREMER ACADEMY LEAGUE
Under-19: Aston Villa v Futhern (20).
Under-17: Nottingham Forest v Michilesbrough (1:30), Aston Villa v Futhern (20).
POOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLANCE: First division: Hartlepool v Scarborough (1:0) Third division: Germaby v Daringson (1:0)
UNILIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUEFirst division: Latiehampton v Chichester.

RUGBY LEAGUE JJB Super League

Wigan v Hull (7.30)

RUGBY UNION

stional matches France v Waies (at Péngueux, 6.0) Ireland v England (at Dormybrook, 5.0) ... Scotland v Italy (at Galashiels, 7.0) Under-21 International matches

(at Old Anniesland, Głasgow, 6.30) ... (at Old Anniesland, Głasgow, 6.30) ... Cheltenham and Gloucester Cup Quarter-finals Moseley v Bedford (7.30)... Sale v Northampton (7 45)

CLUS MATCH: Worcester v Covertry OTHER SPORT BASIGETBALL: Budwelser Leeguet: Milton Keynes Licris v Worthing Bears (7:30); Newcastle Eagles v Edinburgh Rocks (7:30) NEWCAST Setonole Superinger No-Ingham Parthers v Sheffield Steelers (7:30).

SAILING CLIPPER ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE: Leg 3b (Yokohama to Shanghai; with miles to finish). Equal 1. Sanca (R Deart) and Arti-(A Thomson) 654. 3, Taeping (N Herning) 656. 4, Thermopylae (M Tod) 672, 5, Arti-oba (K Harris) 700. 6, Mermenus (B Soliars) 702, 7, Chrysolite (T Hedges) 703,

BANGKOK: Thelland Masters: Second round: J Panoti (Erg) bt S Lee (Erg) 5-3; S Davis (Erg) bt P S Lee (Erg) 5-3; S Davis (Erg) bt P Ebdon (Erg) 5-1; J Hogoirs (Scot) bt M King (Erg) 5-3. M Wilterns (Wales) bt E Henderson (Scot) 5-3; S Hendey (Scot) bt A Robotous (Carl) 5-1; K Doheny (Ire) bt; J Wattaria (Thai) 5-2; D Morgan (Wales) bt N Bond (Erg) 5-1.

SWIMMING

SMPERIA, Rahy: World Cap: Short-course event: Winners: Men: Freestyle: 50m: L Wanners (1) 22 30se: British placings: 5. Burn 22.57 200m: M Rosolno (8) 1mm 47,80sec. British placings: 4. A Clayton 1:46.49. 7, Burn 1:50.36 1,500m: L Lime (8) 1:45.44 Bactarroke: 50m: T Kario (0:o) 25 00 200m: Fu Yeng (China) 1:56.15. 48 Bactarroke: 50m: T Kario (0:o) 25 00 200m: Fu Yeng (China) 1:56.15. 48 Bactarroke: 100m: P Fowler (US) 1:00 97. British placings: 4. R Macten 1:01 80. Butharrily: 100m: D Startsey (Ur) 52.66. Macting: 100m: D Startsey (Ur) 52.66. Macting: 100m: S Volter (6:o) 5.22. 400m: S Szatia (3:o) 4:03.13. British placings: 3. S Colongs: 4.13.33: 4. N Brown 4:14.01.5. N, Sato (1,5am) 1:00.88. Brussistions: 50m: A Kovacs (Hun) 31.42. 200m: Kovacs 22.37. Butharrily: 50m: J Spolong (Swel) 26.87. 200m: M Jacobsen (Den) 2018.47. Macting: 100m: Xue Han (Chinà) 1.01.10. 400m: Y Klochkous (Ur) 4:34.56. World Cap winners: Macc Freestyle: Sprint: A Ludentz (Ger). Distinses J Hoffmenn (Ger). Bachistrokes: Thetote (Gen Brussistokes: Foburgingsave (Ber) Backstrokes: Thetote (Gen Brussistokes: Toburgingsave (Ber) Backstrokes. Thetote (Gen Brussistokes: Toburgingsave (Ber) Backstrokes. Thetote (Gen Brussistokes: Toburgingsave (Ber) Backstrokes. Thetote (Gen Brussistokes: The Debugingsave (Ben) Backstrokes. A Buschstroke. S Thetote (Gen Brussistokes: A Buschstroke. S Thetote (Gen Brussistokes).

TENNIS

SCOTISOALE, Artzone: Prunklin Templeton Classic: Second round: J Golmert (Fr) at N Lapartii (Ed. 35, ret. C Pomer (Fr) at A lie (Aug) 8-1, 62. L Hewit (Aug) bt P Rater (Aug) 7-6, 6-1, A Agass (US) bt M Zatalata (Ang) 62, 60.

COPERNAGEN OPEN: First round: M Paper (Ang.) 48, 6-3 (US) th M Zattasta (Art) 5-2. 6-0. COPENHAGEN OPEN First round: M Rossel (Switz) bit G Caras (Art) 2-6, 5-3. 6-3. Second round: R Schutzer (Ger) 5-3. 7-6: W Black (Zml) bit B Kattacther (Ger) 5-3. 7-6: W Black (Zml) bit D Sangumetti (N 7-6, 6-3. D Nestor (Cari) bit M Rossel (Switz) 7-6. 6-4. M Gustersson (Swe) bit N Goddwr (SA) 6-3, 6-7. 7-5.

Aylesbury give Harding new mission NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

terday appointed manager of Aylesbury United, the leaders of the Ryman League premier division, in succession to Bob Dowie, who was dismissed last week. Harding resigned from

JOHN HARDING was yes-

Famborough Town on Monday, citing the failure of the Nationwide Conference club to supply money promised to help him to lead the fight against relegation. As at Farnborough, Hard-

ing has been given a specific brief: to lead Aylesbury into the Conference — with the promise of the job full-time next season if he succeeds. He will work with Peter Wright, the director of football, and Warren Kelly and Cliff Hercules, the senior players, to try to keep the club on an even

Bill Carroll, the chairman, said: "Given the circumstances we are in, I believe John fits the bill very nicely. He is a top-notch coach, has good knowledge of the Conference and is a chirpy, bubbly and enthusiastic character.'

Ted Hardy, 69, signed off as manager of Dagenham and

Redbridge in style with a 4-0 victory over Hampton at Victoria Road on Wednesday night. Dave Andrews, the chairman of the Ryman League club, said: "At the start

of the season, he said it would

be his last year. "We've spoken about it at times and agreed now was the right time for him to step down and give us the chance to look in earnest for a new manager for next season. He's been superfix you cannot say enough for him." Dagenham are to hold a tes-

timonial match for Hardy against West Ham United on May 4 and have entrusted the reins to John Bennett, Hardy's assistant, while searching for a replacement.

Hardy looks back ruefully on a season that promised much but failed to deliver. We were hit by injuries and, like most clubs at this level; it. leaves you in trouble because you cannot field as big a squad as you would like," he said. "It's the same for every manager so I'm not putting it forward as an excuse, but I wasn't once this season able to put out the side I imagined."

BOWLS

Cherwell quartet stay on course for record

CHERWELL, who are hoping to win the women's national indoor fours title for the third time in four years, stayed on target to achieve that feat when they edged past Taunton in a hard-fought quarter-final in Exeter yesterday (David Rhys Jones writes). Pauline Maskery, Ann All-

mond, Kath Hawes and Sue Lacey defeated Melton Mowbray 21-13, then faced a Taunton team skipped by Jill Young, who took them all the way to the line before Cherwell prevailed 17-14. Those who believe that

Hawes, who represented Eng-land in the Commonwealth

had to admit that her three colleagues make an important contribution, too. In the semifinals today, Cherwell meet Sutton, who beat Cambridge Chesterion, 22-16, and Sunderland, 24-15. West Country competitors

Games in Kuala Lumpur, is

the secret of Cherwell's success

have not fared well in these championships, but local spirits soared yesterday when Margaret Ellett. Audrey Green and Sue Harriott, from Isca, the host club, reached the semi-finals of the two-wood triples, as did Sue Evans, Ross Stuart and Jean Quick, of Taunton Deane.

SPORT, IN BRIEF E TENNIS: Greg Rusedski

the Nottingham Open in June, giving himself another chance to win a title on British soil this year. The British No 2, who was beaten by Richard Krajicek last week in the final of the Guardian Direct Cup in Battersea, won the event in 1997. Patrick Hughesman, the tournament director, said: "Rusedski is one of the world's best grass-court players."

has confirmed his entry for

GOLF: Emie Els and David Howell have won the first two European Golfer of the Month awards for 1999. Els. of South Africa, won the South African PGA title and Howell, of England, the Dubai Desert Classic-They were given the awards by a

panel of the Association of Golf Writers. IN PETERS: The memorial service for Jim Peters, the former Olympic marathon runner, who died on January 9. wili be at St Margaret's, Lothbury, in the City of London, at midday on March. 25. Among those giving readings or addresses will be Cliff Morgan, David Bedford and Richard Nerurkar. I ICE SKATING: Leading skaters will take to the ice at the SKK Stadium in St Petersburg, Russia, tonight for the opening rounds of the International Skating Union Grand Prix final. The

Winners in each discipline

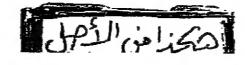
\$10,000 appearance money,

while even those in fifth

place will earn \$18,000.

will receive \$50,000, plus

RUGBY UNION



omorrow

Ireland try to correct balance of expectation

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN

WARREN GATLAND, the Lieland coach, sounded a timely note of caution yesterday amid the rising anticipation of to-morrow's Five Nations Championship match against England at Lansdowne Road Such is the interest in the

match that black-market tickets are said to be changing hands for 1£600, but Gatland knows that his side is far from the finished article.

"If Ireland, Scotland or Wales had achieved England's recent results, they would be over the moon," Gatland said. England have set high standards, which may make them vulnerable when they expect to do well, but makes them that much more dangerous when they come under pressure. It brings out the best in them, brings them closer to-

We are still learning to take our opportunities, to be consistent for 80 minutes. Against Wales, we panicked a bit, tried to defend a lead and stopped playing rugby. But we are learning how to finish a game ... and I don't think any Ireland player would not fancy his chances against his oppo-

site number on Saturday." At least Gatland knows that his side will go the distance, having finished so strongly against South Africa and Wales. "We now have a group of people who believe in themselves, who believe they can compete with any side." Donal "It may be a compliment to us that England arrived on Tuesday to prepare; on the other hand, it also shows their professionalism."

England, so deeply disappointed with their narrow victory over Scotland, have begun already the process of rehabilitation. Lawrence Dallaglio, the captain, whose play and tactical approach have come under fire over the past ten cantly, confidence:

days, accepts the criticism. "If the team performs badly, the responsibility falls on me, but you can be sure that, behind closed doors, everyone accepts a degree of responsibility," he

"We will be meeting an Ire-land side on top of their game, but, on the positive side, we have a lot of experienced players who know the Pive Nations and who know what it takes to win in Dublin."

The expectation on us is huge after the win over South Africa in December. The public want success, but they also want it with style. We are lookance, which should lead to the results that everyone wants. I have belief in my ability as a player and captain and that has been reinforced by the coach and by the team."

Dallaglio shrugs off any suggestion that the back row chosen for tomorrow is not the best available. He has played No 8 for Wasps, for England and for the British Isles and feels thoroughly at home in a position that carries with it an enhanced level of decisionmaking. However, it might assist England's performance if he and Richard Hill refrain from swopping positions during the game against an Ireland pack that will severely examine England's defence.

Neil Back, an integral player in that area, acknowledged that the absence of Will Greenwood, the powerful centre, has been a blow to England. Not only can Greenwood create space for other backs, he offers the back row an obvious target. It would be wrong to expect the same from Jonathan Wilkinson, his replacement, though young Wilkinson is keen to take on a greater attacking role than against Scotland, which indicates both competence and, more signifi-



Dallaglio, the England captain, a towering presence yesterday below the turrets of the team's training headquarters

Henry works for better days

Paris yesterday led by Graham Henry, their coach from New Zealand, for whom the match tomorrow against France will be a first taste of international rugby in the French capital.

Henry has previously admitted to being taken aback by the passion and intensity erated in the Five Nations Championship; on Wednesday, be reiterated his feelings. In response to a question about whether he felt the championship should be played on a home and away basis, as in the Tri-Nations tournament between New Zealand, Australia and South Africa, he said: "What we have now is the best international tournament in the world. Let's

keep it that way." Henry considers the skills level in the southern hemisphere to be superior, as is the tier of competition immedibelow internationals. but he added: "That is taking nothing away from the intensity and expectation of the Five

Mark Souster finds that the Wales coach is a fan of the Five Nations

Nations. They are huge games. In New Zealand, you don't have 75,000-capacity It is rather cruel, then, given

Henry's fondness for a tournament that has often been dismissed in disparaging terms by other New Zealanders, that it has kicked him and 'There's a

Wales in the teeth so far - with every vital need prospect of further poundings at the bands of France for things to this weekend, and then England. be resolved' How the expecta-

tion of the autumn has evaporated so swiftly has been and will continue to be the subject of endless analysis. Henry has his own theories, which he has made known, but he insists that he does not want them to be taken as excuses for a lack of

There had been suggestions There are obviously things

behind the scenes that, if they were put right, would be of immense help," he said. "There's a vital need for people in Welsh rugby to walk down the same road and have the same objectives. At the moment, there is conflict, which isn't helping. The Carproblem. The lack of competdiff-Swansea thing

is playing on the players' minds. There is instability for their future. There's a need for things to be re-solved, hopefully in the short term."

Is he optimistic? "I'm always hopeful. It's a matter of everyone getting together and working out their differences. People will have to make compromises. We aren't a strong enough rugby nation to have these conflicts going on and expect to improve.

They need to be fixed up. As players and coaches, we need to insulate ourselves from those things as best we can."

that Henry had issued an ultimatum to the Welsh Rugby Union, to whom he is contracted until after the 2003 World Cup. "I have been trying, in a reasonably subtle way, to work with the decision-makers. I am making my ideas very clear," he said. "The instability is a real

tive football below international level is a real problem. I have been involved in this sort of thing before, but when you get challenges like this, it brings the best out of people." ☐ France were forced to make one change yesterday to the team to meet Wales. Olivier Magne, the Brive openside flanker, who has not missed a game through injury since his international debut in 1997, has had to withdraw because of a foot complaint. He is replaced by Marc Ray-

SNOOKER

Threat on life leaves Wattana reeling

JAMES WATTANA, a national sporting hero here, bowed out of the Thailand Masters at the Ambassador Hotel last night after receiving an anonymous death threat only two hours before he met Ken Doherty in the last 16 of the world-ranking tournament. Wattana, who captured the

title in 1994 and 1995, was told, via his mobile telephone, to lose the match or "be prepared to die". It is believed the call, traced to a nearby public kiosk, was made by a member of an illegal betting syndicate. Having held Doherty to 2-2, Wattana was beaten 5-2, but at no stage did he provide any

indication that he was not giving of his best. Doherty, who advances to meet John Parrott, was unaware of the problem. Wattana's mother, Ploy-rung, advised her son to withdraw and was seen in tears. Seven years ago, on the day that Wattana produced a 147 maximum break against Tony Drago at the British Open, he

was informed that his father had been shot dead by an assassin in Bangkok. Even in such disturbing circumstances, Wattana, in poor form of late, managed to retain his sense of humour. "It was a good thing the guy asked me to lose. I don't know what I'd have done if he had said 1'd got to win. That would

have been difficult," he said. Steve Davis, who produced arguably his worst performance as a professional at the recent Scottish Open, demonstrated a radical improvement to accompany Doherty into the quarter-finals.

Davis, 41, swiftly and fluently defeated Peter Ebdon 5-1 and now meets Darren Morgan. In a high-quality display, the six-time world champion compiled breaks of 98, 91 and a 136 total clearance, the highest of the tournament so far.

"I hit rock bottom a while ago and sometimes when you think there's no way you can go any lower, it gives you a bet-ter perspective." Davis, star-tlingly ineffective during a 5-1 defeat by Darren Clarke in the

SWIMMING

Champion denied in dispute over rules

FROM CRAIG LORD

THE World Cup came to an acrimonious end here last night when officials were lambasted for refusing to declare a men's medley champion and pay \$17,500 (£10,600) in prize-money on the grounds that neither Christian Keller, the German in the lead, nor any of those below him had competed at events on three

Keiler was denied the \$10,000 (£6,000) first prize after falling foul, along with 50 or so others, of a year-old rule that requires swimmers to race at least once in two zones away from their home continent during the 12-event series. The men's medley money will be held over for the next World Cup.

David Sparkes, the chief executive of British swimming and a member of the World Cup committee, said that the decision had been made because "it would be unfair to all the federations and swimmers who have spent money traveiling to waive the rule at this late stage". Keller said: "I'm really upset. In the medley, not one swimmer has been to three continents, so I am the fair winner."

The three-continent rule and an increase to an exhaustive 12 rounds of the cup meant also that four other runner-up cash prizes were not awarded, in men's sprint freestyle and butterfly and women's distance freestyle and breaststroke, saving Fina, the international body, and its federations even more money from the \$230,000 (£140,000) available for prizes. As a solution, the rule was relaxed yesterday to two continents for the competition next year.

fine performances last night the most impressive of which was that of Agnes Kovacs. of Hungary, whose 2min 23.79sec over the 200 metres breaststroke was the fastest in the world this year - the last session of the cup did not change the overall outcome of the World Cup. Great Britain's only success was second place for Susan Rolph in the sprint freestyle series.

Up to

Although there were many

Yates off lightly

By DAVID HANDS

事で教じます

KEVIN YATES, the Bath prop, who was suspended for six months last year for biting Simon Fenn's ear during a cup match with London Scottish, received a further suspension yesterday, though far less than he might have feared. Yates was banned by a Rugby Football Union (RFU) disciplinary panel until April 1 for reckless" use of the boot during the Allied Dunbar Premiership game against Wasps last month.

Yates, capped by England in Argentina in 1997, was cited by Wasps after a facial injury to Paul Volley, their flanker. which required seven stitches. A three-month suspension was a possibility, but, after scrutinising the video evidence during a hearing lasting less than two hours, the RFU panel, chaired by Jonath-an Dance, decided that Yates's action in the game on February 7 had been reckless, but not wilful, and that he should

serve no more than a month. Nigel Melville, the Wasps director of rugby, said Yates's punishment was appropriate. We wanted it to be confirmed that stamping on heads has no part in our game," he said.

Yet it is hard to avoid the conclusion that the Calcutta Cup match during the intervening period, when Martin Johnson was given a yellow card for stamping on the neck of John Leslie, may have influenced the hearing. Johnson, the England lock, who will play against Ireland tomorrow, claimed the stamp on the Scotland centre was accidental and no action was taken.

Yates will miss league games against Richmond and Saracens and has still to determine how to pay costs due to London Scottish after the prolonged legal debate over the biting incident London Scottish seek more than £20,000 and the RFU hope to bring the respective parties together next week. They are also due to determine another stamping incident on Tuesday, involving Austin Healey, the Leicester scrum half, during the game with London Irish, whose scrum half, Kevin Putt, was injured.

RFU lets When France invented the beautiful game

wenty-four years ago, Wales travelled to Paris to play their second match at the Parc des Princes, the stadium that had taken over from Stade Colombes. The Parc des Princes, with its overhanging stands, was a grimmer and more solemn place than the venerable stadium it had replaced.

Wales had six players enjoying their first taste of international rugby. It was a bold selectorial decision to initiate such raw talent into what had become, and still remains, the most forbidding of all cities in the Five Nations Championships for a Welshman to play. Remarkably, Wales won, for the second time in four years. Such success in Paris has eluded them ever since.

It has not always been like this. Between 1959 and 1969. Wales did not win a game in France, but they had previously dominated a series of matches between the countries. From 1908 until 1927, Wales won all the fixtures, with France achieving their first success the following year. Their first win in Wales -- in Swansea - was not achieved until 20 years later. And from 1949 to 1959 they shared the spoils at Stade Colombes.

This retrospective is to draw attention to the fact that French rugby, despite all the acknowledged flair and traditional gifts, had not been noticeably successful. They were very late starters in the matter of winning. During recent decades, however, French eminence has remained steadfast. They have been the mainstay of rugby's reputation in the northern hemisphere for

This is noteworthy since it is often held that consistency is not their most obvious characteristic. The change came with Lucien Mias, the famous captain of the late 1950s. The trouble with France teams, he observed, was that they played like a collection of captains", each player wanting to express his individuality with no sense

of unity of purpose.

Mias could be said to be the man most responsible for transforming their game. He persuaded his countrymen while acknowledging the ro-





Rugby Commentary

mantic flavour of French rugby - to recognise also the power of teamwork and the need for physical strength and a firm spirit. This philosophy would be inherited by Jacques Fouroux as captain in the Seventies and coach in the Eighties, but, sadly, without the same romantic vision.

Mias was the leader of the France team in 1958 that, for the first time, beat South Africa in Johannesburg in a twomatch series. He was to lead them to the Five Nations Championship outright for the first time in their history the next year. This success provided the springboard for

their recent eminence. They were to achieve the grand slam for the first time in 1968 and, to prove their late flowering as a national team, they have repeated the feat on



⁶ Castaignède had Wembley in awe, a genius unchained?

five occasions since. This season they are attempting a third consecutive grand slam.

For all the pragmatism and physical elements that Mias introduced, these in themselves would never be enough for France. They must retain the romance of the game if they are to attract the hearts of the people. Rugby must never be too straight-laced and formal. There has to be a sense of abandon, a freedom of expression. It is this quality that causes

apprehension among their opponents, particularly those in the Five Nations. No one, as they all admit, plays like the Prench. When they cut loose and the spirit moves them, there is no stopping their fluid motion, which is why "containment" is probably the word that is most often uttered by any team about to face them.

Wales must have felt like that last season, but it did them no good. That match was as vivid an expression as one would wish to see of the way that rugby is an *affaire de* coeur to the French.

n a sunny Sunday

INSURANCE

afternoon at Wembley in April, they were at their most beguiling and enticing. They raised the game to that level which is exquisitely and uniquely French. "Panache," we say, liking the sound of the word, but knowing what it means only when we see someone elegantly parading it. The performance will live in the memory, especially that of Tho-mas Castaignède, a genius un-chained at fly half. They

scored a half-century of points. Rugby is dramatic. Rugby is tough and heroic. There can be marvellous matches of pluck and fortitude; matches of tantalising and rippling movement. There are games that inspire us. For all this. rugby has never been thought of as a beautiful game. But on that gloriously balmy afternoon. France declared in the boldest colours that for them - and only for them, I would uess — rugby has the poten-

Rugby is a thing of beauty. It is a memory cherished by most people, but one that Wales would wish to erase. LEGAL & GENERAL FAMILY PROTECTION PLAN

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Dawn French stars as an undercover WPC

in Murder Most Horrid (BBC2, 9.30pm)

solicits a loan from the ever-solicitous Frasier, who

is then righteously indignant when he believes she is frittering away the money he can, in fact, ill afford to lend her. Finally, he cannot avoid confronting her with his misgivings. She auguly writes him a cheque for the amount of the loan, ha

Helen Rollason introduces action from the first

The contemporary resonance here is of course an altogether more serious matter and this programme, presented by Yasmin Alihi Brown, is a serious, sober attempt to get to the wider issues of which the Stephen Lawrence case is merely a tragic symptom. Brown asks if Britain can, or should, sustain the notion of a "racial melting pot" that is included in the oftened where "metals".

that is implicit in the oft-used phrase "multi-culural". About half the children in Britain whose

background is Airo-Caribbean have at least one

white parent and 40 per cent of black men have a white partner. So are all the old groupings — black white, Asian — outdated or can they, should they, be able to preserve their own identities within the rainbow of society?

Peter Bargard

BBC WORLD SERVICE

World Business Report 3.45 insight 4.00 The World

CLASSIC FM

6.00em Nick Balley's Easier Bresidest. Music to get the day off to a fine start 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Half of Fame Hour and Classio Masterpiece 12.00pm Lunchtime Requests, Jane Jones plays Isyourits music 2.00 Concerto. Gresg (Plano

Concerto in A minor) 3.00 Jamie Crick. Continuous Cl

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BATE 13 ...

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Sant Marie .

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Carried plans

of course then needs to horrow the sum ag

World Indoor Athletics Championships

BBC2, 245pm (except Scotland)

cover the cheque.

Lara facing his greatest test

Trinidad and Brian Lara and now they are bracing themselves for something completely different. Today, just down the road from the Savannah where the great fete is staged. the Prince of Port of Spain begins the trial that will decide whether he is a fit and proper person to be captain of West

Lara has been criticised throughout the Caribbean for leading the pay dispute that undermined the recent tour of South Africa even before it started and then presiding over the worst humiliation in the islands' cricket history, a 5-0 drubbing in the Test series followed by a 6-1 defeat in the one-day internationals.

However, the selectors had little alternative other than to retain him as captain, albeit reluctantly. First, it would have been almost inconceivable to reduce him to the ranks in front of his own crowd at the Queen's Park Oval: second, they felt that there was no one else to whom they could turn; and third, he is just about the only decent batsman West Indies have left.

Thus they have, in effect, put him on probation for the first two Tests, here and in Jamaica. against Australia, the side that first proved that West Indies were no longer invincible by winning in the Caribbean in 1994-95.

With his re-appointment came an instruction to improve on his captaincy skills, his relationship with the players and with Clive Lloyd, the team manager, and Malcolm Marshall, the coach. It read more like a charge sheet than a vote of confidence and even Lloyd, who captained the West Indies in 74 of his 110 Tests, calls it mind-boggling.

"There is enough pressure on being captain of the West Indies or any team for that matter without being told something like that," Lloyd said, before going on to spell out the size of the challenge that is facing Lara if he is to keep the job that he coveted so

"This is not one person's thing," he said. "It is a West In-



Lara, who is battling to hold on to the West Indies captaincy, faces the press yesterday

cohesive unit we have in the Caribbean and the people feel that being captain is a noble position. Somebody once told me that when you are captain of the West Indies, you are the most important man in the

"You are more important

than the prime ministers of Trinidad or Barbados, they can only make decisions for Trinidad and Barbados. You are making decisions for five million people all around the

Caribbean. to realise that now and it is en- Dr Rudi Webster, who played

with it. I think he is capable of doing it, but he has to learn that when you lead, you lead by example. You also listen to the people around you."

That message has been re-"I think Brian is beginning inforced by the appointment of

being an unbeaten 70, against

the best bowling attack of the

For the senth time out of II,

Michael Vaughan called

correctly at the toss, but was

unable to capitalise himself

when, attempting to pull his

hat out of the way, a ball from

Gree Smith bounced steeply

and flicked his left glove, Mal

Loye also fell to an error of

for Warwickshire as a fast bowler while he was studying medicine at Edinburgh University before becoming one of the first sports psychologists in the world.

"We have always depended on our natural talent, but you need more than that these days," Lloyd said. "Most sports are played from the neck up."

Dr Webster has much to do. Apart from the Lara problem, which has been exacerbated by a cracked wrist that is not expected to stop him playing, West Indies have had to revamp their side in the aftermath of the failure in South Af-

TEAMS

WEST MINIES from: 8 C Last (captain), S.L. Campbell, S.R. Ripportelli, J.C. Address, R.I.C. Holder, D.R.E. Lowert, L. A. Roberta, P.V. Strandon, R.D. Jacob, C. E.L. Ambrose, R. D. King, G.A. Wistin, P.T. Collins, C. Gulyanosi, M. Dilles, M.T. G. Elect, J. L. Langer, M. F. Waugh, Captain), G.S. Benett, J.A. Hasty, S.R. Wangh, (appain), G.S. Benett, J.A. Hasty, S.R. Werne, S.C. G. MacCilli, J.N. Gillagole, G.D. Micklath,

rica. Wallace and Lambert, the opening batsmen, have been dropped, Chanderpaul is injured and Hooper is in Australia, where his new-born son

In their places, Campbell has been recalled, to open with Ragoonath, a Trinidadian who is set to win his first cap at 31, and two more new batsmen, Roberts, 24, and Joseph, 29, join the more seasoned Adams, Simmons and Holder in a squad of 15.

At least Ambrose and Walsh have cranked up their ageing bones to spearhead the familiar pace attack that will include any two from four more fast bowlers. Dillon, King, Collins and Collymore, the newcomers from Barbados. There is no spinner.

Australia would almost certainly include both their leg spinners. Warne and MacGill. on a pitch that was damp yesterday and is expected to help all kinds of bowling.

Lloyd said: "I think we have to brace ourselves. What we have are raw recruits and we are throwing them to the lions.

trapped leg-before padding

Windows consolidated with

Maddy, reaching 33 unflus-

tered runs. Then came a

moment of confusion that could have cut short Maddy's

innings. Having run the ball down to fine leg, he turned for

a second only for Windows to

attempt to send him back -

but Maddy was committed to

the run, even though Win-

dows had barely left his crease, and ran past his part-

ner, ensuring he was not the

one to be run out. Maddy, on

his century in 5% hours with his eleventh boundary. Flintoff continued in his

rich vein of form to the close.

taking 94 balls to reach his fifth half-century of the tour.

☐ Pat Symonx, the off spinner, has announced his retire-

ment from international cricket despite being named in the provisional South Africa squad of 19 for the World Cup

lan to ask whether he would be

interested. He said then that he would be interested and the

idea was that they would come

back. Today he told me he has

not spoken to them since."
Sri Lanka have named Kum-

ara Dharmasena in their

19-man preliminary World Cup squad. Sri Lankan offi-cials said that the off spinner

would have to be cleared by the

International Cricket Council,

which has told the Sri Lankan

board that he runs the risk of

being called for throwing if he

with Pakistan 192 for three.

does not correct his action.

only last week.

58 at the time, duly comple

up to Justin Kemp.

TELEVISION CHOICE

A fruitless endeavour

Return to the Lost Gardens of Heligan Channel 4, 8pm

It's all the fruit you can eat tonight, or rather, all the fruit you could eat if only the staff of this Cornish enclave could get things right. From apples to dates, pineapples to melons, it seems that a combination of climate and growing positions conspires to frustrate their endeavours. It says much for the director, Michael Hutchington, that even this third of a follow-up series to the original story of the gardens' restoration after decades of neglect can engage and fascinate. The shared sense of achievement when the first pune-apple is tasted is only enhanced when it is calculated that each fruit has cost 6800 in labour and materials to produce. The arguments over where to relocate the Canary Island Date Palm echo the "lively discussions" of previous shows, with opinions dividing along lines now familiar to regular viewers.

Murder Most Horrid BBC2, 9pm

Jon Canter's script is so outrageously over the top and surreal that it takes this uneven series into a whole new dimension. Dawn French plays a rural WPC, keen on amateur dramatics, persuaded to impersonate an American madame (Whoopi Stone) in an attempted drugs sting against three mobsters who have moved to London. She throws herself most vigorously into the role, but is forced to shoot one of the gangsters when her cover appears to be blown. She is then persuaded that she must stay in costume and accept a prison sentence for murder when the drugs bust results in arrests (herself included).

Channel 4, 10pm

If this were Friends, it would be subtitled The One in Which Frasier Gets His Job Back rather than Roz Alone. The main plotline is that Roz learns that the radio station's new programming of Latino music is not a success and that the sacked staffers, including Prasier Crane, will be re-employed. She

Helen Rollason introduces action from the first day of the seventh World Indoor Athletics Championships which take place in Maebashi, Japan Colin Jackson will be hoping for gold in the form hurdles after having to settle for silver on three previous occasions in these championships. Jackson's form this season has been encouraging, but he will face stiff opposition in the shape of Cuba's Anier Garcia, the 1997 champion. Today's other medal placings will be determined in the women's 60m hurdles, men's triple jump and the women's pole vault where British hopes rest with Janine Whitlock. Steve Cram, Paul Dickenson and Stuart Storey commentate with Linkord Christie Stuart Storey commentate with Linford Christie and Sally Gunnell. Louise Godfrey

Woman's Hour Beyond Black and White Radio 4, 10am

Radio 4, Nam

First of two consecutive programmes this morning (see right) that have a level of contemporary resonance that is always welcome but not always apparent in the schedules. Fake guests have put daytime chat shows in the news, so this interview with Oprah Winfrey, the queen of the American talk genre, is of particular interest, even if the actual peg for the interview is (of course) Winfrey's new status as a movie star in Beloved. The film is about motherhood, something Winfrey says here she has not "had the energy" to embark upon. As for the alleged sell-out when Winfrey reduced her weight to appear on the cover of Vogue, she says: weight to appear on the cover of Vogue, she says:
"If Anna Wintour (Vogue editor) says you have to
be down to 150lbs, that's what you've gotta do."

RADIO 1 (BBC)

5.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Westway 8.20 Off the Sneft Captain Conell's Mandolin 8:35 Science in Actors 8.20 World News 8.05 The Art of Transisting 8.20 John Peel 9.50 Sports Round-Up 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Bettern Today 10.45 Your Questions Of Feith 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Focus on Feith 12.00pm World News 12.05 Outlook 12.45 Spoits Round-Up 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 3.05 Science in Action 2.30 Best on Record 3.00 World News 3.05 Science in Action 2.30 Best on Record 3.00 World News 3.05 Football Etta 3.15 Performence 3.30 The Vintage Charl Show 4.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 Mutitirack: Alternative 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up 6.90 World News 7.05 Science in Action 7.20 Your Question Of Faith 7.45 Off the Sheft: Captain Corell's Mandolin 8.00 Newshour 8.80 World News 9.05 World Business Report 9.20 Brasin Today 9.30 Best on Record 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Mutitirack: Alternative 11.00 World News 11.05 Cutlook 11.45 Insight 12.00em The World Today 12.30 Science in Action 12.55 My Cantury 1.00 The World Today 13.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 T 6.30em Zoe Beil 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00pm Jo Whitby 2.00 Mark Raddilla 4.00 Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Peta Tong's Essential Selection 9.00 Judge Jules 11.00 Radio 1 Rep Show 2.00em Fabro and Groovender 4.00 Clive Warren

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Waler Up to Wogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Julief Morrie 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Des Lynam 7.00 Morley at the Musicals 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 9.15 Single and Single. By John le Carré (2/8) 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 David Jacobs. Easy Does it 10.30 Sheridan Morley 11.45 The People's Paalms 12.00am Nicky Home 4.00 Late Sherma

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00mm Morning Reports 6.00 Brasidast 9.00 Nicky Campbel autoward Morrang Hepotra 6.00 breamost 5.000 North Camposi.
12.00pm The Micday News 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 brive with Peter Alien and Jame Garvey 7.00 News Extra. Presented by Susan Bookbinder 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsnight. Brisan Moore and studio guests discuss the week's sporting issues, and second-half commentary on Cardiff City v Chester City in Division Three 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up Ali Night

TALK RADIO

6.00mm The Big Boys Breaklast 9.00 Scots Chistrolin & Sally James 12.00pm Motoring 1.00 Anna Raeburn 3.00 OKI to Talk 5.00 The Sports 20me 6.00 Nicky Plome's Access all Areas

6.30em Russ Williams 9.30 Mark Forrest 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace

Concerto in A minor) 3,000 Jamie Crick, Continuous Classics, plus sport updetes and travel news 6,30 Newsnight. Top stories and interviews with guests from the arts world 7,00 Smooth Classics at Seven, John Brunning introduces classic sounds 8,00 Evening Concert. Beethoven (Symphony No 2), Schumenn (Farrissiestucke); Brahms (Symphony No 1 in C minor) 11,00 Mann at Night. Music through till the small hours 2,00am Concerto. Greig (Fiano Concerto in A minor) (r) 3,00 Mark Griffiths. The Early Bresklast Show

6.00em On Air Petroc Trelawny wan arts news and music, including Weber (Clarinet Concertino in Efat); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in G, Op 49 No 2) 9.00 Massamworks with Peter Hobday. John Adams (Tromba Iontans; A Short Ride in a Feast Machine); Schubert (Ave Maria, D839; Die Forelle); Schubert (Piano Sonata in C, D812, Grand Duo); Sibelius. (The Madden's Tryst, Op 37 No 5; Aus banger Brust, Op 50 No 4; Slowly as the Evening Sun, Op 61 No 1); Bruch (Concerto in Eminor for clarinet and viola)

brius, (p) ou No. 4, Slowly as the Evening Sun, up
of I No. 1); Bruch (Concerto in E minor for clarinet
and viola)

10.30 Artist of the Weekt: Bernsard Haitlink

11.00 Sound Stories: Family Affairs Peggy Reynolds
take about the Lloyd Webber musical dynasty

12.00pm Composer of the Weekt: Tchalkovsky

12.00pm Composer of the Weekt Tchalkovsky

1.00 The Badio 3 Lunchtime Concert (Sounding
the Century) Gould Trio. Faure (Pisno Trio In D
minor, Op 120); Ravel (Pisno Trio in A minor)

2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Scotish Symptony
Orchestra under Osmo Vanska, Jennifer Koh,
violin. Sibelius (The Oceanides); Beethoven
(Symphony No 6 in F, Pastonel); Berg (Violin
Concerto); Sibelius (Symphony No 5)

4.00 Music Restored Lucie Skeaping introduces
various treatments of an old Portuguese dance (r)

4.45 Music Mechaline with Tormny Peason

5.00 in Turie Seen Rafferty talks to the conductor and
composer Anciré Previn as celebrations at the
Barbican begin in honour of his seventieth
birthday

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Pamiling Today Ashley Gething presents
6.00 Today with John Humphrys and Sue MacGregor
8.38 (LW) Yesterday in Partiament Political news
9.00 Desert Island Discs The comedy scriptwriter
Richard Curtis joins Sue Lawley (r)
9.45 (FM) Serial: Zerata Final parts (r)
9.45 (FM) Serial: Zerata Final parts (r)
9.45 (LW) An Act of Worstip
10.00 Woman's Hour with Jenni Murray. See Choice
11.00 Beyond Black and Whitle Yasmin Alibhai asks if
Britain's record for the largest number of

11.00 Beyond Black and White Yasmin Albhai asks if Britain's record for the largest number of internacial relationships makes it a model for other countries. See Choice

11.30 Sunny Side Up The Glee Boys consider Pita Reves' offer to organise a four (4/6)

12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast 12.00pm (Fit) News 12.04 You and Yours Consumer issues and public service reports, presented by Liz Barcley and John Watte

1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke

1.30 Puzzle Panel Chris Masianica presents riddles and brain-leasers

2.00 The Archers Yesterday's edition (r)

2.15 Atternacon Play: Dry Sherry Dark comedy, by

2.00 The Archers Yesterday's edition (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Dry Sherry Dark comedy, by Elizabeth Bathes. The luneral of a woman's torner mother-th-law goes well until an uninvited quest antwes. With Deborah McAndrew and Gillian Cally 3.00 Changiag Places Howard Stableford reports. Irom Britain's first wood-burning power station in the Scottish Bordersy
3.30 First Nights A childless couple's attempts to adopt a beby girl from Chine
3.45 This Scoptind falle Part 45 of the history of Britain, narrated by Anna Massey (r)
4.00 Writers' Mesterclass Sebestian Faulis and Philippa Gregory discuss the integration of history into fiction. Last in series (3/3) (r)

7.30 Performance on 3 A concert given last month in the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester. BBC Philharmonic, Lars Vogt, plano, under Peter Maxwell Davies: Maxwell Davies (A Reel for Seven Fishermen, first UK performance); under Vessily Shaisley: Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 4 in G); Shostakovich (Symphony No 6)
9.10 Poestscript: Cultiural Nationalism (5/5)
9.35 Brahms (Violin Sonata in D minor, Op 108). Joseph Sageti, violin, Egon Petri, piano
10.00 Hear and Now BBC Singers under Stefan Parkman, BBC Symphony Orchestra under Diego Masson, Bussotti (Il Catalogo e Questo Illi); Herza (Orphaus Behind the Wire; La Selva Incantata)
11.30 Jazz Century (Sounding the Century) Russell Davies presents a 52 part history of jazz (f)
12.00am Composer of the Week Coptend (j)
1.00 Through the Niight with Donald Macleod. Includes 1.00 Francoise Pollet, soprano, Italian RSO under Eliahu Inbal. Chausson (Poeme de Famour et de la mer); Strauss (Symphonia domestica) 2.15 Debussy (Estampes) 2.35
Poulenc (Sept chansons) 2.50 Albentz, orch Arbos (Iberia) 3.20 Beethoven (Vlolin Sonata in E flat, Op 12 No 3) 3.40 C.P.E. Bach (Quartet in D, Wigs4)
4.00 Handel (Alcina, excepts) 4.20 Chopin (Scherzo No 4) 4.38 Tibor Sarai (Symphony No 2) 5.00 Biber (Sonala No 12 in C) 5.15 Madetoja (Symphonic Suite) 5.40 Durante (Concerto for Strings No 6 in A)

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day

4.30 The Message Alex Brodie and his guests discuss media trends
5.00 PM with Clare English and Nigel Wrench
6.00 Str O'Clock News
6.30 The Sundary Format John Morton's cornedy about the stories generated by a fictional weekend newspaper Starring Rebecca Front, Simon Greenall and Torny Cardner (3/4)
7.00 The Archers Hayley takes on Helen
7.15 Front Row Live arts programme
7.45 The Cry of the Bittlem Emitrommental drama, by. Tim Jackson. Broadcast earlier as part of Woman's Hour (r)
8.00 Any Questions? Audience members from Narberth in Pembrokeshire address panellists including Ron Davies, MP
8.45 Letter from America by Alstair Cooke
9.00 The Friday Play: Walting by Steve May, A concerned mother awaits the late arrival of her 14-year-old daughter, who has stayed out past her nine o'clock curiew. With Lindsey Coulson and Kelly Wright
10.00 The World Tonlight with Robin Lustin

her nine o'clock curiew. With Lindsey Courson and Kelly Wiright

10.00 The World Tonight with Robin Lustig

10.45 Book at Sectione: Errest Herningway

Fictional orator Jake Burns speaks out for a generation struggling to cope in the wake of the First World War (f)

11.00 (FM only from 11.30) Late Night on 4: Late Tackle Special edition of the sporting magazine, with Eleanor Oldroyd and guests in Dulin shead of the Five Nations Rugby match between trekend, and England

and England

11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament

12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: Five Stories by Anton Chekhov Alistar McGowan reads Bad Weather, Chekhov's tale of marital mistrust

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1, FM 97.8-99.8, RADIO 2, FM 88.0-90.2, RADIO 3, FM 90.2-92.4, RADIO 4, FM 92.4-94.8; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 683, 909, WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55m).

CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102, VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215, TALK RADIO, MW 1953, 1989.

Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemany Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and Laboration.

Maddy compiles a timely reminder

NEWLANDS (first day of five: England A won toss: England A have scored 259 for three President's XI

JUST OVER a year has passed since Darren Maddy swept all before him during the England A tour to Kenya and Sri Lanka. Since then, however, his failures have far outnumbered his successes. A moderate season for

saw him move ever further from England circles, the culmination of which was his omission, as expected, earlier this week from the final

World Cup squad. It was with some emotion, therefore, that Maddy reached a century of considerable personal importance Leicestershire, including a yesterday on the opening day

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN CAPE TOWN single, disheartening one-day of England A's concluding so far, Flintoff's contribution

President's XI at Newlands. Ironically, his partner for much of a chanceless innings of 122 not out was Andrew Flintoff, who has hardly been able to wipe the grin from his face since hearing of his retention in the World Cun squad of 15.

Together, they have added 141 runs for the fourth wicket



ENGLAND A: First immos



Maddy: chanceless century

Botham denies coaching job

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IAN BOTHAM was nonplussed yesterday by reports that he had signed a two-year contract to coach Sri Lanka's pace bowling attack as they prepare to defend their World Cup crown this summer. Naynesh Desai, Botham's solicitor, insisted that the

PAKISTANE First innings

nzamem-ul-Hag b Wickernasinghe. 0

Shahid Altidi, † Moin Khan, "Wasim Akram, Saqlain Mushtaq, Shahid Nazir

Answers from page 47

Saced Anwar b Wickremasinghe. Wajahatulah wasti not out............ Imran Nazir c De Silva

sition since an initial conversation at the Test match between England and Sri Lanka at the Oval last August.
"This is absolutely not true,"

former England all-rounder had not spoken to the Sri Lankans about a coaching po-

Desai said of claims from Thilanga Sumathipala, the president of the Sri Lanka cricket board, that a deal was done. "Last year, they approached

SCOREBOARD FROM LAHORE FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-105, 3-105.

BOWLING: Wickremasinghe 19-7-61-3; De Silve II-0-68-0; Hathurusinghe 10-3-21-0; Bandsrathilake 18-7-25-0; Kalpage 7-1-14-0.

Imran Nazir, 18, scored 64 for Pakistan on the first day of the Asian Test championship match against Sri Lanka in Lahore. Nazir shared a secondwicket stand of 105 with Wajahatullah Wasti, who was on 80 when bad light forced a halt

SRI LANKA: R P Amold, M S Arapatru, D P M D Jayawandane, A Guna-wandane, "H P Tillekeratre, † R S Kalu-witharana, R S Kalpage, K S C de Silve, U C Hathurusinghe, M R C N Bandar-athilake, G P Wickremasinghe. Umpires: R E Koenzen (South Africa)

> CISEAUX PAS (a) The scissors step. A jumping step in which the legs open wide either to the side or to the front and back, starting and ending in the fifth

the father takes to bed for ten to twelve days.

PISOLITHS (c) Spherical rock particles of 5-6mm diameter. subtended at the centre of a sphere of unit radi-

They are formed by the gradual accretion of material round a nucleus. STERADIAN (b) The unit of solid angle, being the solid angle

us by a cap of unit area on the spherical surface.

The whole sohere subtends an angle of 4xpi steradians at the centre of the sphere.

WORD-WATCHING

COUVADE (c) A ritual custom, once common throughout the world. By couvade, after the birth of a child.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE Ob2 and if I ... Rxb2 2 Rf8-checkmate. Black had nothing better than I ... Nxg3+ 2 hxg3 Qh6+ 3 Qh2 but White won easily with his extra piece.

THE KENYA CYCLING 6000ft. This is no holiday but it is unbelievable fun and you will be raising vital funds for two charities carring for people with Downs Syndrome and other serious learning disabilities. Norwood Ravensweed

JULY 10TH - 18TH 1999 IT'S NOT JUST A RIDE IT'S AN ADVENTURE The Kenya Cycling Satari Charity Blice Ride is an opportunity of a lifetime to experience the excitement of Africa with its amazing variety of wildlife and spectacular landscapes. You will cycle

through the Great Rift Valley, cross the Equator and visit Lake Bogorie, famous for its flocks of flamingos. On the way you will cycle through traditional African villages and pass herds of zebra. giratife, impala, hartebeest and other fascinating wildlife. You will camp out at night and cycle some 350km at attitudes of over

For colour brachure intermetion pack call 24-hour HOTLINE 0990 770014 or write to: Kenya Bike flide. 80-82 The Broadway. Stanmore, HA7 4HB



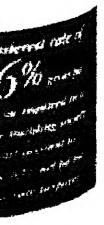


Sporsorship £2000

KCH.

pointed

iles slum



hen you get your 15 min-nies of fame make sure you've got a good agent you've got a good agent you've got a good agent. Having paid £400,000 for Monica Lewinski's first UK television interbook. We all guessed that she no longer values Linda Tripp's friend-ship, and has mixed feelings about view, Channel 4 was not going to Clinton himself. he backward in hyping forward. Preview tapes were withheld until

Nor did it help that Lewinski is polishing her act as she goes along. She told Walters, ludicrously, that lifting ber skirt to show Clinton her thong knickers was a "small, subtle, flirtatious gesture". But for Snow this had been edited down to "a very small gesture". Not where I come from, it isn't.

In fact Snow's approach, which worked well, was to do the thinking for her. All the telling phrases came from him. Lewinski herself talks in that teeth-curling Californian emote-speak. She is "in touch with her sexuality", for instance, "and it needs to be honoured and cherished". Her family are to be honoured" and "valued" and everyone she met seems to have violated" her in some way or other.

Snow offered her a long string of telling propositions about her reac-tions and feelings, many of which seemed to set her thinking in ways she had not anticipated. She began with an extraordinary puppyish charm: wide-eyed, beaming almost gushing and giggling like a schoolgirl — 25 going on 15.

B ut Snow pushed her firmly but tactfully into the darker zones, and a picture began to emerge of an admittedly selfdeluding and less than completely moral innocent, sucked into a nightmare of cynicism, deceit and ruthless manipulation. The bub-bles subsided and a troubled, saddened air descended, tinged with the fear that her immunity from prosecution could still be lifted by a false move, with the gates of the

penitentiary beckoning.
The fact that Kenneth Starr's team have gagged her from dis-

5.30am ITN Morning News (36230)

10.30 This Morning (T) (44830308) 12.15pm HTV News (T) (4311650) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (34650)

12.59 HTV Crimestoppers (53934853)

1.00 WALES: Wish You Were Here?

1.00 WEST: Shortland Street Nick loses

1.30 Home and Away Things are looking up for Chioe and James (T) (33921)

2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5615476)

3.25 CITV: Mopetop's Shop (4074582) 3.35 Timbucton (9034495) 3.45 Animal Stories (5315679) 3.55 Giggly Bitzl (4780872) 4.15 Pump It Up (138018) 4.45 Comin' Atcha (3366143)

5.10 A Country Practice Darcy saves Billy's becon. Last in series (7166853)

5.40 ITN Early Evening Naves (T) (774230)

6.00 Home and Away Things are looking up for Chice and James (r) (T) (143489)

6.25 WALES: Water Tonight (1) (630650) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (355495)

6.30 WEST: The West Tonight (T) (679)

6.55 WALES: A Taste of Things to Come New programmes on HTV (124747)

7.00 Bruce Foreyth's Play Your Cards Right Game show (7/18) (1) (3414)

7.30 Coronation Street The game's over for

8.00 Days Like These The gang goes to a

affections (4/13) (T) (9834)

disco where they nearly change partners, while Bob thinks Ron has a rival for Kitty's

Chris Tarrant returns with the big

ries. Chris Tarrant hosts the ultimate

8.30 Who. Wants to be a Millionaire? New

big-prize game show (T) (8959)

9.00 Britzin's Worst Roads The state of the nation's highways and byways (T) (5969) 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (32655)

10.30 HTV News and Weather (1) (137360)

season (T) (106259)

of neo-Nazis (T) (22556679)

Melbourne (T) (618254)

4.50 ITV Nightscreen (43221525)

3.20 The Haunted Fishtank (12543322)

5.00 Coronation Street (r) (1) (33964)

3.50 Trisha Shown earlier (r) (1) (9586148)

1.30am F1: Australian Grand Prix Qualifying Action and news from the

qualifying session for tornomow night's Australian Grand Prix at Albert Park in

10.40 Murray and Martin's P1 Preview A look

ahead to the forthcoming Formula One

lan (T) (563)

2.45 Wheel of Fortune (1) (538969)

3.20 HTV News (T) (4091259)

3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (4061018)

Greece, Naples, the Swiss Alps and the Himaleyes (r) (T) (31124)

6.00 GMTV (5086785)

9.25 Trishe (T) (8218414)

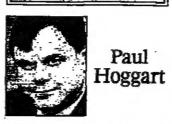
control (31124)

REVIEW

Paul

Leaked revelations a blow to Channel 4 scoop

1P311 (10150)



her surely torpedoes their claim to be disinterested seekers after truth. You do not have to like or admire Clinton to see that Lewinski was a human dum-dum bullet. fired in a failed coup d'étar.

She seemed an articulate, guileless, warm-hearted woman, but this is a world of mirrors, most of them two-way, and hidden agendas, so who can really tell? If only cussing the way they "handled" the President had heeded Rudyard

Kipling's observation that "a woman is only a woman, but a good cigar is a smoke". That's right, Bill.

Football's Foreign Legion (Channel 5) was an example of a rare and precarious beast, a halfway decent Channel 5 document-ary. Half-way only because, like Dickens's *The Pickwick Papers*, the programme was something of a "loose and baggy monster".

There was an inconclusive discussion about whether the flood of foreign cuckoos was killing our native chicks, or whether they were teaching by example. A further inconclusive debate looked at the globalisation of the sport, suggesting that a multinational mogul such as, to pick an example at random, Rupert Murdoch, might plant a Japanese player on Manchester United in order to open up Japanese markets to his media products

But most of the footage consisted

of profiles of genial foreign football-ers such as Eyal Berkovic of Israel and West Ham, who has found happiness at Solly's kosher restaurant, Golders Green, even though his team-mates are often unintelligible as "zay spik Cocknikt"

n fact the greatest effect of the foreign invasion may be on the fans. They have been introduced to smoother, classier, cleverer ways of playing "the beautiful game" as it is known to initiates. Or "the game of running about a lot in the mud" as it is known to the rest of us. Not that that makes much differ-

ence to the Glasgow fans. They are determined that the new foreign players, including the six Roman Catholics playing for traditionally Protestant Rangers, are fully aware of the treasured heritage of Rangers-Celtic sectarian hatred, we were told.

But foreign players, unlike

Liverpool's Robbie Fowler, are not ashamed to be thoughtful. Chelsea's French international Frank Leboeuf, for instance, is no mad cow, whatever his name may imply. "We've got only one life and want to be involving many cultures and it was very important to come abroad and see how English people lives," he rumin-ated appreciatively. I wonder if Gazza ever said that in Italian.

Would the ranting xenophobic fan who taunted Eric Cantona have realised what a prat he was if the mono-brow philosopher had not drop-kicked him in the solar plexus? Sadly the programme overlooked this point, but "ze pilchard 'oo dances in ze ship's spume, must bewair ze unexpected shag", as Eric might say. Or "He's French; he's flash, and he's seeing [I think that was the word] Leslie Ash, Cantonasa!" as Manchester United fans once chanted, clearly inspired by his Gallic muse.

9,00 Kilroy (T) (2822327) 9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (7380389) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (3364853) 11.00 Change That (3374230) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (3351389) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (7239327) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (14308) 12.30 Wipeout (4805785) 12.55 The Weather Show (T) (53949785) 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (46056) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (59861360). 1.40 Neighbours (T) (35918018)

yesterday morning prompting cries of "Hold the television page"

But given that yesterday's napers were full of accounts of her

American interview with Barbara

Walters, and that Channel 4 were

sending out press releases contain-

ing the juicier quotes from Jon Snow's, this may seem a little disin-

gennous. It won't do the book sales

any harm, though.

Following Walters didn't make
Jon Snow's job any easier. The
more dramatic or lurid "revela-

tions", such as Lewinski's claim to

have contemplated jumping from

the tenth-storey office where II FBI

men were grilling her, were

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (90940)

7.00 Breekfast News (T) (43969)

to echo around Wapping

2.05 ironalde Practical Jokers with a sick sense of humour keep the police in suspense (r) (5122563) 2.55 Through the Keyhole (1) (7) (7110358) 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6768360) 3.45 Spider (5339259) 3.50 Smart on the Road (9044872) 4.05 Rugrats (6405414) 4.30 L & K Friday (3343292) 4.55 Newsround Extra (5806211) 5.10 Blue

Peter (9701476) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (143211) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (259) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (211) 7.00 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook Kate Winslet and Grey O'Brien grace the

hectic cookery show (r) (T) (5018) 7.30 Top of the Pops Performances by Blur, The Corrs, Cher, Cardigans, Writiney Housten, Britiney Spears and Stereophonics (1) (495) 8.00 Ground Force Alan Titchmersh and the

team pitch in to create the ultimete football fan's garden, complete with comer grandstand (4/8) (1) (4766) 8.30 The Builders The council gives the go-shead to Tony Keating's latest project (1) (6501) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News;

Neather (T) (2389) 9.30 Parkinson With the comedian Lenny Henry and Roff Harris (1) (836679)



and Richard Burton (10.25pm)

andos set out to rescue an American World War espionage thriller, with Richard Burton and Clint Eastwood. Directed by Brian G. Hutton (50331018) 12.55am A Child for Satan (TVM 1991)
Chiller, starring Marita Geraphty as a pregnant woman who moves to New Mexico with her husband, only to be unsettled by a warning that evil forces are John Schwartzman (T) (4254438)

10.25 Just Up Your Street (332563) 11.00 Facing The King: Del Smith in Conversation with Barry John (984360) 11.40 FILM: Where Eagles Dare (T) (69154230) 2.10am-2.15

BBC2

7.00am CBBC Breakfast Show: Pingu (7740308) 7.05 Teletubbles (6730768) 7.30 Snorks (8695921) 7.50 Short Change (3703292) 8.18 Rewind (3144563) 8.20 Taz-Mania (5391582) (3144563) 8.20 1az-Mania (5381582) 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (1349230) 8.50 Pingu (1345414) 9.00 Storytime (7967230) 9.10 See You, See Me (4699105) 9.30 Numbertime (8088211) 9.45 Come Outside (8083768) 10.00 Teletubbles (36939) 10.30 Megamaths (1837650) 10.50 Look 8 Read (1857414) 11.10 Landmarks (3540124) :11.30 English File (4124) 12.00pm Scene (82150) 12.38 Working Lunch (47124) 1.00 Johnson & Friends (68268360)

1,10 The House Detectives (1) (41006056) 1.40 Hart-Devis on History (35922211) 2.10 Awash with Colour (56782360) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (3536650) 2.45 Championships Introduced by Helen-Rollason (4913124)

3.25 News; Weather (T) (4063476) 3.30 The Village (r) (9710308) 3.55 Kaye (9728327) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (1) (6407872) 4.55 Esther (1) (5482853) 5.30 Today's the Day (1) (360) 6.00 The Simpsons (r) (1) (171360) 6.20 The Simpsons (f) (1) (182476) 6.45 Robot Wars: The Grand Final (153327) 7.15 Electric Circus (7) (292394)

7.30 Country House Lord and Lady Tavistock appear to have made theroselves unpopular (T) (227) 8.00 Trust Me. I'm a Doctor Dr Phil Hammond meets researchers looking to boost the British man's dwindling sperm production (T) (2308) 8.30 Gardeners' World Stephen Lacey

meets an octogenarien gardener in Santa Barbara (3/30) (1) (4143)

9.00 Aurider Most Horrid Dawn French stars as a bored village WPC who swaps rural life for an undercover mission (1) (3/259) 9.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks With Meet Loef and Billie (1) (27380)

16.00 The Young Ones (f) (1) (13679) 10.30 Newsnight (1) (245327) 11,18 Video Nation Shorts (1) (392495) 11.20 Births, Marriages and Deaths Graham accidentally discovers Molly's well-kept secret (r) (1) (649785)

12.10am Shoot the Planist (1960) A timic bar planist is drawn into a world of crime by his brothers, who are on the run from victous gangsters. Directed by Francois Truffaut (6916231)



Another chance to see the Brit award winner Natatie imbrugfia live (1.30em) 1.30 Later with Jools Holland With Page and

Plant; Gomez; Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds and Natalle Imbrugha (r) (2355051) 2.35 Weether (5669167) 2.40 Close 3.00 BBC Learning Zone: GCSE Bitesize Revision: French 1 (84588) 5.00 Close

CENTRAL

Were Here? (r) (3124) 1.30 The Jeny Springer Show (I) (6030327) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (I) (539698) 3.20-3.25 Central News (I) (4091259) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7166853) 6.25-7.00 Central News Weather (1) (960327) 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (1) (137360) 10.40 Late Tackle (1/8) (6791259) 12.00am Murray and Martin's F1 Preview (T) (62235) 12.30-1.30 Anatomy of Disaster (96902) 3.20 Box Office America

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News; Weather (I) (4311650) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (7574037) 1.00 Westcountry Updata (31124) 1.30 The Jerry Westcountry Update (31124) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (6030327) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away. (1) (539698) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Weather (1) (4091259) 5.08 Birthday People (9814560) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (7166853) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (1) (59969) 10.30-10.45 Westcountry Live (1) (59969) 10.30-10.45 Westcountry Live (1) (151040) Westcountry News; Weather (T) (151940) 10.45 The Other Side (423698) 11.15 Murray and Martin's P1 Preview (1) 11.45-1.30 FILM: The Car (324495) (1) (413211)

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (4311650) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (7166853) 5.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (1) (59969) 10.30 Meridian News; Weather (1) (137360) 10.40 Dream Town (6/6) (106259) 11.10 Murray and Martin's Fi Proview (1) (505747) 11.40-1.30 FILM: They Live (702124) 5.00am-5.30 Freescreen (1)

WARRY MICHAEL

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (7578853) 12-20-12-30 Anglia News and Weather (7566018) 5-10-5-40 Home and Away-4(7-47168653) 5-59 Anglia Weather (7)-(752259) 6-00 Anglia News (1) (327) 6-30-7-00 Off the Beaten Track (1) (579) 10-29 Anglia Air Watch (272124) 10-30-10-40 Anglia News and Weather (1) (137380) and Weather (T) (137380)

11.10 Pink Cadillac (1989) Comedy active true, sterring Clint Eastwood as a bounty hunter searching for a woman who stole \$250,000 from a vicious gang Planed Plant (90470105) 5.30 Countdown (7) (67419259) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (7) (93728292) 6.10 Heno (7) (86218495) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (7) (90490969) 7.30 Newyddion (7) (67496308) 8.00 Cein Gwlad (7) (90476389) 8.30 Y Clwb Rygbi (7) (90488124) 9.00 Pawb 81 Fam (37630230) 10.00 Brookside (7) (72945582) 10.35 Frasier (7) (35040765) 11.05 So Graham Norton (7) (83044969) 11.45 TFI Friday (35408211) 12.50am 4 Later; The RuPaul Show (85656877) 1.20 Late Toon: Watching TV (52963457) 1.30 The Mod Squed (75045877) 2.30 Vida (1) (43349780) 3.00 Fil.M: Fame is the Spur (24284051) 4.55 Diwedd

As HTV West except: 12,20pm-12,30 Central News; Weather (T) (7586018) 1.00 Wish You (12552070) 3.45 The Haunted Fishtank (r) (36657065) 4.10 Central Jobinder '99 (1) (6228893) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (3606902)

A PARESTCOUNTRY

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (r) (88191360) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (67151389) 9.00 Yagollon: Off Limits (99431582) 9.25 Schools at Work (29072414) 9.30 Eureka (74332785) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (74320940) 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (14377211) 10.10 TVM (91176476) 10.25 leith ar Daith (91188211) 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (96478495) 11.00. The Technology Programme (15248056) 11.15 Pa Newydd? (15238679) 11.30 Powerhouse (†) (68503969) 12.00pm Home Improvement (†) (97382037) 12.30 Sesame Street (†) (26100582) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (67154476) 1.30 FILM: The Wings of Eagles (T) (62532495) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (67470360) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (67470369) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (7) (67493495) 4.30 Dishes (7) (67495679) 5.00 Planed Plant (90470105) 5.30 Countdown (7)

CHANNEL 4 5.50am The Magic Roundabout (1040360)

5.55 Sesame Street (4543582) 7.00 The Blg Breakfast (36679) 9.00 Schools: Off Limits (6322835) 9.25 Schools at Work (8136124) 9.30 Eureka (3080679) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (8078834) 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (5399650) 10.10 TVM (9276124) 10.25

1798 and After (9295259) 10.45 Enter the Meths Zone (9518563) 11.00 The Technology Programme (3482292) 11.15 Stage One (3405143) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (9292) 12.00pm Sesame Street (T) (82178)

(2.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (32292) 1.00 Pet Rescue (T) (39766)

4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (5477921)

1.30 Travelog Treks North Korea (59878650)

1.45 The Real Glory (1939) Soldiers of Intune help quell a terronst uprising in the Philippines in the aftermath of the Spanish-American War. Gary Cooper and David Niven star. Directed by Henry Hothauser (7) (4120024) Hathaway (T) (41220834) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (785) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (292) 4.30 Countdown (T) (3369230)



The chat show supremo Jerry Springer joins Chris Evans (6pm)

8.00 TFI Friday Jeny Springer and bands, Humicaine £1, The Beautiful South and Des'ree join Chris Evans (40211) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (344650) 5 The 1999 Citibank Pr

Photography Prize The inventive pictures of Alex Hartley (T) (275230) 8.00 CHOICE Return to the Lost Gardens of Heligan Resident fruit expert Paul Hayward looks for advice on

how to improve his peach yield (T) (7476) 8.30 Brookside A police raid shafters Ron's plans (T) (9211)

9.00 Friends Monica applies to become the chef in a lancy restaurant. Jon Loviz guest stars (r) (T) (6327) 9.30 Boyz Unlimited The group go head-to-head with Boys Lid and the day

of the wedding arrives (5/6) (T) (52056) 10.00 CHOICE Fraster Roz borrows money from Fraster (T) (32637) 10.30 So Graham Norton Comedy (856853) 11.10 King of the Hill Bill wears a dress in

memory of Lenore (T) (503389) 11.40 TFI Friday Shown earlier (r) (810921) 12.45am 4 Later; The RuPaul Show (37167) 1.15 Late Toon: Watching TV (8242612) 1.25 The Mod Squad Greer's life is jeopard-

ised by an unknown terrorist (3380983) 2.25 Vids Offbeat video review (r) (4163588) 2.55 Fame is the Spur (1947) Drama following the nse to eminence of a working-class socialist. Starring Michael Redgrave. Roy Boulting directs (485983) 4.50 Wanting and Getting A photographer takes a poignant picture of his home town before he leaves (46856235)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport (8852330) 7.00 WideWorld Part 11. Issues of race and religion in schools (r) (T) (8250143)

7.30 Milkshakel (2782969) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (4761698) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (2977921)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (2976292) 9.00 Nancy Lam (r) (9414619) 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (4536940) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9718829) 10.20 Sunset Beach Ben occupies Maria's

thoughts (T) (3723582) 11.10 Leeza (5418691) 12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (2987308) 12.30 Family Affairs Yasmin's behaviour changes (r) (T) (1358230)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (8259414) 1.30 The Roseanne Show The outrageous comedian is joined by the author and supermodel Dayle Haddon (1357501) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (9236230)

2.30 Good Afternoon (1841018) 3.30 Wedding Day Blues (TVM 1988) A

free dream wedding is turned into a nightmare by feuding family and friends.

Comedy, starring Cloris Leachman and John Ratzenberger. Directed by Paul Lynch (4083969)

5.10 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T); 5 News Update (8585747) 6.00 100 Per Cent Ouz (2570211) 6.30 Family Affairs Gabby learns of Clive's short-lived affair (T) (2561563)

7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (9214018) 7.30 Champions of Nature Wildlife

documentary focusing on a whale conservation project in Nova Scotia (1); 5 News Update (2567747) 8.00 Was It Good for You? Two couples head for East Africa (8/14) (9223766)

8.30 Nick's Quest Giant river otters in Guyana (4/8) (T) (9235501) 9.00 Childhood Sweethearts? (1995) A woman missing for almost 20 years returns to her home town where she

attempts to bring to justice those she claims had been abusing and keeping her prisoner — but will anyone believe her story? Drama, staming Melissa Gilbert, Barbara Babcock and Ronny Cox. Directed by Marcus Cole (T); 5 News Update (81335785) 10.50 Poltergelst: The Legacy A man is brought back from the dead after

years — only to discover the world he knew is long gone (r) (T) (4181037) 11.45 Before the Night (TVM 1994) An independent woman thinks she's finally lound the man of her dreams — but events soon lead her to suspect he's not quite ail he seems. Starring Ally Sheedy. Directed by Talia Shire (6284292)

1.40am WB Blue and the Bean (TVM 1988) Three ball bondsmen get caught up in a drugs war while investigating the case of a kidnapped heiress. With David Hasselhoff. Directed by Max Kleven (77257525) 3.10 Stapstick, Too (1992) Ell Wallach

his

ed

narrates a compilation of classic sturts from the golden age of Hollywood comedy (58087457) 4.35 Russell Grant's Postcards From the River Wye (38055896) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (7261070)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (8942877)

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Jessy Raphael (52579) 10.00 The Open
Whitey Show (71763) 11.00 Guby (84830)
12.00pm Jenny Jones (83327) 1.00 Mad
Aboul You (52018) 1.30 Jeopardy (75653,
2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (6905) 3.00
Jenny Jones (82747) 4.00 Guby (94582)
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(12476) 9.00 Inside the X Files (25940)
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11.00 Friends (95211) 11.30 Sar Trek 11.00 Friends (95211) 11.30 Cops (65785) 11.00 Friends (95211) 11.30 Star Trek Voyager (34018) 12.30em The Commish 177008 4 1 27898) 1.30 Long Play (8853885) SKY BOX OFFICE

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FILMFOUR 6.00pm Short Attention Span Circima (4385834) 8.00 Bob Roberts (1992) (87488308) 9.45 Rootop (8573768) 10.00 M Butterfly (1983) (9144650) 11.45 The Ozin (521968) 12.00em Shivers (1974) (7337148) 1.30 Demage (1992) (6143631) 3.20 Little (1984) (18257693) 6.00 Close SKY PREMIER

5.00em Class's Heart (1988) (11143) 8.00 Keeping the Promise (1997) 6.00m; Clara's Heart (1988) (11143) 8.00 Keeping the Provise (1987) (3:650) 10.00 Space Jam (1989) (7650) 12.00m Old Yeller (1957) (54501) 2.00 Cara's Heart (1989) (17921) 4.00 Keeping the Provise (1997) (9553) 8.00 Space Jamessic Park (1997) (9553) 8.00 World: Jamessic Park (1997) (957) (1997) 10.10 Conspiracy Theory (1997) (1953) 10.55 12.25 am. Never Talk to: Strangers (1998) 12.25 Michael Strangers (1995) (3302148) 1.65 Michael Colline (1996) (84641254) 4.05 Verrightes

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.30em Laure Lucaing Stept Here (IVM 1988) (80309292) 7,10 Guinevere (1993) 1988) (61300222) 7.10 Guinevere (1983) (73188785) 9.00 Ther's Right, You're whrong (1983) (56327) (1-3.0 life Hollinte's Opus (1995) (32940) 1.00pm Guinevere (1993) (24350) 3.00 The Adventures of Sharfock Holines' Smarter Brother (1975) (31221) 4.30 Eth Hollinte's Opus (1995) (79232) 7.00 PRoteire (9478) 7.30 UK Top 10 (5143) 100 Actor Homes PRoview (9476) 7.30 UK Top 10 (5143) Mous Mogic (7259) 9.00 Beverty Hills Ninja (1987) (8559) 10.30 High School High (1987) (8559) 10.30 High School High (1996) (4408143) 11.35 The Trush About Case and Dogs (1995) (232940) 1.35sm Erit the Vilding (1996) (977544) 3. 10 The Adventures of Sharlock Holmes' Smarter Brother (1973) (408542) 4.45 Godzille va Gigan (1972) (51863615) SKY CINEMA

4.00pm Road to Zanziber (1941) (7350211) 8.00 Dregnet (1954) (2753567) 8.00 Wild Rher. (1966) (2753567) 10.00 The Nitingro Beanfield War (1966) (4612308) 12.00em The Kremini Letter (1970) (3728364) 2.05 The Lagend of Hall House (1973) (1215457) 3.40 The White Tower (1950) (20012761) 9.00pm WCW 78to (23609078) 11.35 WCW Thunder (75121696) 1.30am Mgrit Digger (1971) (23748693) 3.15 Savage Mesetah (1972) (15165895) 5.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1 6.30em Futures in Sport 7.00 Sports Centre 6.30mm Futures in Sport 7.00 Sports Centre 7.18 Wrestling 8.15 You're On 34y Sports' 9.00 Racing News, 9.36 Aerobics 10.00 Speriish Footbell 11.00 Footbell League Review 11.30 Futbol Mundial 12.00pc Aerobics 12.30 What A Weekend 1.00 Lac Gof 5.00 Futbol Mundial 5.30 What A Weekend 6.00 Sports Centre 7.00 Live Seper League 9.50 World Sport Special 10.00 Sports Centre 11.00 Hold the Back 10.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Hold the Back 10.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Centre 1.00 Live 10.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Centre 1.00 Live 10.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Centre 1.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Centre 1.00 Sports Centre 1.00 Spo Wrestling 3.00 Super League 4.00 Hold the Back Page 5.00 Sports Centre

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Aerobics Oz Styls 7.30 Spons Coden 7.45 Racing News 8.15 What A Weekend 8.45 Sports Centre 8.00 Fish TV. SKY SPORTS 3 11.30em Futures in Sport 12.00em Trens World Sport 1.00 Fishing: Tight Lines 2.00 Bobby Charlen's Footbell Scrapbook 3.30

Football League Review 4.00 Survival of the Fitlest 4.30 Max Power 5.30 Moto-Plus 6.00 Cycling: 6.30 Inside the Senior PGA Tour 7.00 Gott 9.00 Moto-Plue 9.30 Estrame Selling 10.00 World Wrestling Federation: Raw 12.00am Close EUROSPORT 7.30am Live Affileda 11.00 Live Worten's
Apine Stding 12.00pm Alpine Stding 1.00
Live Showboarding 2.00 Live Worten's
Bisthion 3.15 Women's Alpine Stding 4.00
Live Closs-Country Stding 3.30 Women's
Bisthion 5.30 Women's Alpine Stding 7.30
Figure Stating 9.00 Bording 19.00 Affields:
11.00 Editerne Sports 12.00am
Snowboarding 12.30 Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Crossroads 7.30 Neighbours 7.55
EssEnders 8.30 The Bit 9.30 When the
Bost Cornes in 10.30 Phode 11.00 Dales
11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm EssEnders
1.00 Juleo Bave 2.00 Dales 2.55 The Bit
3.55 EssEnders 4.30 Rhode 5.00 All
Creatures Greet and Small 6.00 Opinaty
7.00 Ever Decreasing Circles 7.40 Dad's
Army 8.20 The Bridas Empire 9.00 The Thin
Bius Lins 9.40 Henry Emfetd and Chume
10.20 Ruby Wes Meets Helen Mirsen and
Julianna Margules 11.00 The Bit 12.00am
Doctor Who: Space Museum 1.46 Blake's
Seven 3.00 Shopping with Screenshop
CRO AMADA Bit 1150 GRANADA PLUS 8.00am Within These Walls 7.00 Holding the Fort 7.30 Dodor at Large 8.00 Helicipis 8.30 The Many Wives of Patrick 9.00 Classic Coronation Street 9.30 Erremediale Farm 10.00 Upsteins, Downstains 11.00 The Gentle Touch 12.00pm Classic Coronation Street 12.30 Entrangency Farm 10.00 The Many Many 10.00

Entmardate Farm 1,00 The Many wwest or Patrick 1,36 Me and My Gel 2,00 Upeters, Downsters 2,00 The Love Soot 4,00 The Professionals 5,00 Hert 10 Hert 6,00 late Farm T.DO The Many We

Emmerces Fam 6.30 Classic Connection Street 7.00 The Professionals 6.00 The Servy HW-Show 9.00 The Systemay 10.00

SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

The Stram Conley Show 10.30 Wheetsppers and Shutters' Social Club 11.00 Granada Men and Motors CARLTON SELECT 5.00pm What's Cooking? 5.30 Gridicok 6.00 London Bridge 8.39 Cut House 7.00 Boon 8.00 Blue Meelers 9.00 Love Murts 10.00 That's Love 10.30 The Screen 11.00 His Street Blues 12.00mm Grown Up 12.30 Gridock 1.00 The Last Pace on Earth 3.50

DISNEY CHANNEL 6.00ata Gumm Bears 6.25 Classic Toore 6.35 Tele Sph 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladdin 7.38 101 Dalmatians 8.00 Goof Troop 8.25 Classic Toons 8.45 New Adventures of Winnia the Pools 8.00 Tha

Advertures of Spot 9.05 Animal Shelf 9.15

Adventures of spot \$0.05 Animal Shet 9.15 Pocket Dragons \$25 Bear in the Big Blue House 9.55 The Toothbrush Family 10.00 Bile Size 18.16 Rosie and Jim 18.30 The Big Geregs 10.46 PB and J Citer 11.00 Sesame Sheet 12.00pm The Adventures of Spot 12.05 Animal Shelf 12.15 Pocket Dragons 12.30 Bear in the Big Blue House

my Irons and Juliette Binoche star in Louis Maile's erotically charged romantic drama Damage (FilmFour, 1.30am) 1,10 Rose and Jim 1,30 The By Garage 1,45 PB and J Otter 2,00 New Adventures of Winne the Pooh 2,30 Quack Pack 3,00 The Late Mermerd 3.30 Art Attack 4.00 101 The Libe Mermad 3.20 Am Attack 4.00 foll Daimstarrs 4.30 Hacuses: The TV Show 5.00 Recess 5.15 Pepper Am 5.30 Smert Guy 6.00 Tean Angel 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 FRM: Safety Patrol (1985) E.30 Honey. I Shrunk the Kids: TV Show 9.15 Datosaurs 10.00 Hume Improvement 10.30 The Wonder Years 11.00 Touched by an Angel 12.00am Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Adventures of Dodo 6.05 Power a.00mm Advantures of Dodo 8.06 Power Rangers Turbo 6.30 Power Rongers Turbo 6.35 Spiderman 7.20 Oggy and the Codequebes 7.30 Dontey Kong-County 8.00 Hero Turtles: The Next Mutation 8.25 The Incredible Hull. 8.50 Iron Man 9.15 Fertiestic Four 9.40 X-Men 10.06 Cooper 10.30 Oggy and the Codematics 10.55 EgidStranggartza 11.05 Bobby's World 11.30 Life with Louis 11.55 Home to Pert 12.05 Power Donote and Greather 12.30

Man 2.45 Fanlasic Four 3.10 X-Men 3.30 Fox Kids X-Press 3.35 Spolermon 4.00 Goosebumps 4.25 Hero Turties The Next Mutagon 4.50 Casper 5.00 Denns and Grasher 5.30 Ace Ventura 6.00 Donkey Kong Country 6.30 Eek/Stravaganza 6.55 Oggy and the Cockmaches 7.00 Close NICKELODEON 6.00am Rocko's Modern Life 6.30 Bruno the Kid 7.00 CatDog 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 The Wild Thomberrys 8.30 Actiur 9.00 Children's BBC 10.00 Winze's House 10.30 Papa Beaver Stories 11.00 The Mago School Bus 11.30 PB BeavBudgier the Liftle Helicopteir/Aumal Antusyl-amity Ness 12.00pm Rugrats 12.30 Bure's Clues 1.00 Bananas in Pyramas 1.30 Little Bear Sunes 2.00 Paddington Bearli-Zze's Lucray/Portend BBAR Men 2.30 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC 7.00 Rugrats 5.00 Paddington Bearli-Zze's Lucray/Portend BBAR Men 2.30 Children's BBC 7.00 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC 7.00 Rugrats 5.00 Paddington Bearli-Zze's Lucray/Portend BBAR Men 2.30 Children's BBC 7.00 Paddington Baryl-Zze's Rugrats 5.00 Paddington Septimizes 5.00 Rugrats 6.00 Rugrats 5.00 Rugrats 6.00 Rugrats

Three Friends and Jeny 4.30 Rugrais 5.00 Sister Sister 5.30 Kenan and Kel 6.00 Rentord Rejects 6.30 Moesha 7,00 Close BRAYO : 8.00pm Marial Law 8.00 Ermeme Championship Wresting 9.30 Cops 10.00 The Late Lounge 10.30 Erobic Conlessions 11.00 FR.M: The Happy Hooker Goes to Washington (1977) 1.00em Erobic Confessions 1.30 The Late Lounge 2.00 Martial Law 3.00 FILM: Bloody Birthday

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Jenny 7.20 Grace Under Fire 8.00 Elen 8.30 Spin City 9.00 Deop the Dead Donkey 9.30 Whose Line is it Arryway? 10.00 FRUNE Life of Python 11.75 Langels Link 11.30 The Lany Sanders Show 12.00am Late Alight with David Littleman 1.00 Taxi 1.30 Frontine 2.00 Dr Ketz 2.30 Tibe and Fits 3.00 Nightst 3.30 Autor and Costello 4.00 Cicse

ing 5.30 Cops 6.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL SATELLITE: 8pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30mm Biocroberg Information Tolevision 8.00 Sightings 8.00 Battlester Galectica 10.00 Quantum Leep 11.00 Dark Shectors 11.30 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 12.00pm The Twilight Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected

Leep 8.00 Amazing Stories 8.30 Highlander: The Reven 8.30 The Hunger 10.00 FILM: Witchboard (1987) 12.00am PiLM: Aldre (1988) 2.30 100 Years of Horror 3.00 Dark Shadows 3.30 Dark Shadows 4.00 Close HOME & LEISURE 6.00am Today's Gournel 6.30 Graham ken 7.00 Room Service 7.30 The Panted House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Beby 9.30 Simply Painting 9.30 Polited History with Antony Hern 10.00 Global Gardens 19.30 Cookabout with Greg and

Magic and Miracles 3.00 Battlestar Galactica 4.00 The Incredible Hulk 5.03 Sightings 6.00 The Pay Bradbury Theame 6.30 New Altred Hischoock 7.00 Cuantum

Gardens 10.30 Cookabout with Greg and Max 11.00 The Docemen 11.25 The Home and Losure House 11.30 Rex Hurt Fishing Advantures 12.00 pm Our House Down Under 12.30 Antiques Trail 1.00 Our House 1.30 Horsetime 2.00 New Yankee Workshop 2.30 Home Again with Bob Vita 3.00 This Old House with Steve and Norm 3.30 Go Fishing DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rev Hurt Fishing Adventures 4.30 Walter's World 6.00 Time Traveters 5.30 Terra x 8.00 Widths SCS 6.30 Adventures 0 the Quest 7.30 The Quest 8.00 Culback Adventures 8.30 Uncharted Atrica 8.00 Shoot to Thrill 10.00 Proposel and Allende. Anatomy of a Coup 11.00 Weapons of War 12.00am Birth of a Salosman 1.00 Terra X 1.30 Time Travellers 2.00 Close ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm The New Adventures of Black Beauty 12.30 Hollywood Salari 1.30 Crocodie Hunter 2.00 Wild Repouse 2.30 HumanNature 3.30 Harry 5 Practice 4.90 Jack Hanne's Zoo Life 4.30 Animal Doctor 5.00 Pet Rescue 5.30 Deadly Aug 5.00 The New Adventures of Black Beauty 6.00 The New Adventures of Black Beauty 8.30 Lessie 7.00 Rediscovery of the World 8.00 Animal Doctor 8.30 Animal X 9.00 Cosen Wide 9.30 Emergency Vest 10.00 Lions: Finding Freedom 11.00 Vel School 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00am Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Season of the Salmon 7.30 Diving with Seals 8.00 The Shark Files Great Whate — in Search of the Grant 9.00 Animal Instinct 10.00 Knuger Park 100 — The Vision Lives On 11.00 Search for the Great Apas 12.00am Mirrorworld CARLTON FOOD

B.00am Food Network 0a7>10.00 The Cookshop 10.30 Alive and Cooking 11.00 Worral Thompson Cooks 11.30 A Sec of the Action 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30 Newman Meets 1.00 Coxon's Kirchen College 1.30 Gordon Remsay's Passion for Flavour 2.00 Can'l Stand the Heaf 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Food Factory 3.30 A Store of the Action 4.00 New Chefs on the Block 4.30 Tesse Brantley's Chels on the Block 4.30 Tessa Bramley's LIVING

E-00em Tiny and Crew 6.20 10 Ptus 2 6.40
Philbert the Frog 6.45 Circedyasurus and the Gang 6.50 Pctka Dot Shorts 7.00
Practical Perenting 7.05 Professor Bubble 7.30 Castou 7.35 Bug Alert 7.55 Practical Parenting 8.00 Barrey and Frencts 8.25 Babaloos 8.30 Castou 8.35 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Cart Cook, Wont Cook 9.30 The Rossame Show 10.50 Marry Powch 11.40 The Heat Is On 12.10pm Airmal Rescue 12.40 Rescue Many Pouch 11.40 The Heat is On 12.10pm Armal Rescue 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Special Babies 1.40 Beyond Basel: Fact or Fistion 2.10 The Jerry Springer Store 3.10 Lwing Room 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 Rotonda 3. 40 Ready, Steady, Cook 6.16 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 9.10 7.35 Ammal Rescue 9.00 Admenatin Junkes 9.00 FILM: The Woman Who Stinned (1991) 11.00 The Sex Files 8 12.00 and Close 1.00 Files 1.00 The Sex Files 8 12.00 and Close 1.00 Files 1.00 The Sex Files 8 12.00 and Close 1.00 Files 1.00 The Sex Files 8 12.00 and Close 1.00 Files 1.00 The Sex Files 8 12.00 and Close 1.00 Files 1.00 The Sex Files 8 12.00 and Close 1.00 Files 1.00 F

ZEE TV 5.00am Mrs Medhur Dod 5.30 Gudarta 6.00 Sony Men Lony 6.30 Mesi Musi Shoe 7.00 Fath: Musim 7.30 Nevs 8.00 Zee World 8.30 Tara 2 8.00 Adhstar 10.00 Anhori 11.00 Zake Ka Salar 11.30 Parampara 12.00pm Fil.Mc Hindi Movie 3.00 Bangia TV. Noviralirer Rat 3.30 tis My Charta 4.00 Ather Steps 4.51 Zee Zee

Choice 4.00 Alder Birdal 4.30 Zee Zor Croice 4.00 Alost Sirgal 4.30 Zee Zone 5.30 Amora 6.00 Anost of the Fortughi 6.30 Zee TV Showcase 7.00 Chastne Bacticor 7.30 Enterterment Express 8.00 News 8.30 Azishwad 9.30 FILM: Hindi Movie: Khudase 12.00am News 12.30 Ru-Ba-Ru 1.00 X-Zone 2.00 FILM: Hindi Movie: Bees Sael Based



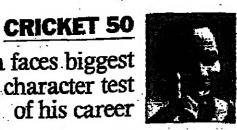




Challengers line up to claim crown from the Monie men

SPORT

Lara faces biggest character test of his career



Kinnear told to rest after heart scare



Kinnear's long-term future is

JOE KINNEAR, the Wimbledon manager, suffered a heart attack before his club's match against Sheffield Wednesday on Wednesday evening. He will not be in charge for the game against Leicester City, also in the FA Carling Premiership, at Selhurst Park tomorrow and is unlikely to be released from the Northern General Hospital in Sheffield until after the weekend.

Kinnear, 52, has been told to rest for at least two weeks and will have to take medication for the foreseeable future. He could miss the rest of the season as he recuperates and his long-term future may also be in doubt. It will not be discussed by Wimbledon officials until he has returned to London and settled at home. After complaining of chest pains before the game at Hillsbor-ough, which Wimbledon went on to win 2-1. Kinnear was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Sam Hammam, Wimbledon's partner-governor, spent the evening with Kinnear and they were later joined by Kinnear's wife, Bonnie. She remained at the hospital yester-day as her husband underwent more tests. Kinnear, one of the longest-serving managers in the Premier-

ship, was said to be "comfortable". "I'd like to bet he was sitting up, taking a lightly boiled egg and chat-ting up all the nurses," a close friend said. "Not much will change. I'm sure he'll be back at the helm before too long. A hospital spokesman was less sure. "I think that's way down the

line," he said. "I'm sure that's not even on his own or Mr Hammam's mind at the moment, even though

By Russell Kempson

sure it's not uppermost in their been regarded as a stressful job, minds. The main thing is for Mr particularly in the Premiership, in minds. The main thing is for Mr Kinnear to get himself back to

Kenny Cunningham, the Wimble-don captain, had noticed that Kinnear was troubled during the pre-match warm-up. "As we were coming off the pitch, it became obvious that Joe was in some type of discomfort," he said. "We thought it might have been indigestion or something like that. An ambulance then came and took him to hospital. was a bit of a shock at the time, but, hopefully, the worst is now behind him. It was in our minds during the match and especially afterwards, but I don't think it had

any bearing on the game."

which the demand for success and the financial rewards that go

with it - have reached unrealistic levels. Kinnear is an often volatile character, who believes in expressing his emotions in the most demonstrable manner possible. His state of mind cannot have been helped by Wimbledon's double defeat against Tottenham Hotspur, in the FA Cup fourth round and Worthington Cup semi-finals, last month, which produced four matches of intense pressure on and off the pitch.

He responded typically by saying that Wimbledon could still qualify for Europe via a high finish in the Premiership and they lie sixth after the victory at Hillsborough.

Barry Fry, the Peterborough United manager, has survived two heart attacks yet remains his same, voluble self in the Nationwide League third division. Ronnie Moore of Rotherham United, and Steve Parkin, of Mansfield Town, were wired up with heart monitors during their third-division game at

Both managers' heart rates soared during the match, which Rotherham won 3-0. "We're all un-der the same pressures, " Moore said yesterday. "I was very surprised my readings weren't higher as I'm a real shouter and screamer. People tell me there's so much pressure in the Premiership but you should try it down here. We

Field Mill in January.

are all fighting for a living.

"I'd like to see Premier League managers linked up to the heart monitors. Can you imagine what Gordon Strachan would be like? In Kinnear's absence, Mick Harford and David Kemp, his first-team coaches, will look after the side....

"Joe is in the best possible hands."

Efan Ekoku, the Wimbledon striker, said. "We're still pushing for a European place and, hopefully, Joe will be back to spearhead the

campaign."

Bradford City have boosted their attempt to gain promotion to the FA Carling Premiership by completing the signing of Dean Windass, the 29-year-old forward, from Oxford United.

He is expected to make his debut for his new club away to Pert Vale tomorrow. Bradford will pay Oxford £950,000 plus a further £50,000 if they win promotion this Hag aunc kitch tabl

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Hill backing Schumacher for world title

FROM KEVIN EASON IN MELBOURNE

THE recommendation can come no higher than from the man with the biggest axe to grind, but Damon Hill was willing yesterday to press the claims of Michael Schumacher, his old adversary, as the Formula One motor racing

world champion this year. Hill would seem the least likely to declare his support for the driver who presented the biggest obstacle to his own championship ambitions, particularly on the eve of the first grand prix of the season. It was in Australia that the German prevented Hill from winning his first world title by allowing his Benetton to come into contact with the Englishman's Williams in 1994.

The incident was judged to have been an accident, but Hill is now wise enough to believe that Schumacher's robbed him of victory and their rivalry has continually

IMES

spilled into bitterness and recriminations. Since then, Schumacher has twice lost the world title in the last race of the season in his Ferrari, leading Hill to predict that his time

has come again.
"If you take the way things went in the last two seasons, I would put my money on Ferra-ri winning it. I would put my money on Michael winning."

he said. "They have come so close in the last two years, but I think this year Ferrari will start closer to McLaren than did last season, which give Michael a good chance to challenge straightaway. I wouldn't put a lot of money on it, but I can see it

"It would be good for the sport if Ferrari won it and it

TWO

would certainly be good for Ferrari, but if Michael starts this year as he finished last season, then the advantage will be with Ferrari and Michael Schumacher.

"It's a gut feeling. McLaren started here with a 2sec advantage, in effect, last year and Ferrari ended up being on level terms towards the end of the season. That gives Michael a magnificent chance."

Schumacher was sidelined by his only mechanical failure the season in Melbourne last year, while the McLarens of Mika Hakkinen - on his way to the championship and David Coulthard humiliated the opposition by lapping the entire field.

Perhaps Hill's assessment would have been tempered if he had witnessed the German's lukewarm performance conference of the season. This was Schumacher at his worst: uninterested, terse, even leaving the stage for a toilet break at one point while Ron Dennis, the McLaren team princi-

pal, answered questions. Not that Hakkinen, his chief rival, was in much better form. The world champion said that he is relaxed and determined to retain his title, yet he, too, seemed to be out of sorts, even anxious. In fact, the only world champion who appeared geared up for the chal-lenge was Hill, the oldest man on the grid and the driver most readily tipped for retire-

ment at the end of the season. Eddie Jordan, the team owner, has already warned that a poor season would see Hill, 37. hanging up his helmet and overalls and walking into the bliss of family life at home in

However, Hill spoke enthu siastically yesterday of developing a car that might win races this season and might be ready to challenge for the world championship next

This is the first time since he left Williams in his championship-winning year of 1996 that a car has been built for him and Hill has joined in the task with enthusiasm, visiting the Jordan factory on days off and building a relationship with

Earlier this week, he loaded



Hill is delighted with Jordan's progress before the opening grand prix of the season this weekend, but believes that Schumacher has a better title chance

taxis to take them out for a meal and then to a club to listen to a rhythm and blues band as thanks for their relentless hard work in getting his new Jordan ready for the race on Sunday.

This is the first time a car has been built around me, with me putting in my ideas and talking closely with the en-gineers and designers." Hill said. "There is a lot on this car that I like and it is a much,



Schumacher's performance yesterday left much to be desired

much better car than the one we started last season with." Having left the excellence of Williams. Hill went to Arrows and a car incapable of even getting to the starting grid in the first race of the 1997 season here. This time last year, having joined Jordan, he laboured to eighth place, which was a warning of times so difficult

that he contemplated retire-

ment midway through last

All that changed spectacularly when Hill won in Belgium. signalling the rebirth of Jorship contender and Hill as a driver capable of breaking the McLaren-Ferrari monopoly of

grands prix victories.
"I am not trying to play things down because we don't know yet where we are against the competition," he said, "but the omens are good. Maybe we are not yet in the position of winning the championship. but we can win races and we have a car that can be developed. Perhaps we will have a realistic chance of a car that can win a championship in the

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ACROSS
1 Welsh town: WW2 general

7 Result (7) 10 One from Myanmar, type of

cat (7) 11 Item of information (5) 12 Surface glow; glory (in reputation) (6) 15 Waterproof jacket: a nerd

(slang) (6) 17 Natural usage (language) (5) 18 Pioneering missionary (7)

21 Mouth of eg Nile. Mississippi (5)

22 Bitter bark extract, for malaria once (7)

23 One-room apartment (6,4) DOWN

1 Vehicle engine (5) Looped rope and (5) 3 Hansel's sister (6) 4 Alexander the Great its king

energy device (7) 6 Tubby (3-7) 9 One operating stopwatch

13 Little pan (7) 14 Arthur -. Fr. poet (7)

16 Macbeth saw his ghost (6) 19 Upstairs bay: its window (5) 20 Coil, distort (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1656 ACROSS: 1 Light 4 Brigade 8 Atrocious 9 Ash 10 Half 11 Sealyham 13 League 14 Onward 17 Croatian 19 Rail 22 Fat 23 Blundered 24 Repress 25 Yemen DOWN: 1 Leash 2 Gorilla 3 Tack 4 Broken 5 Insolent 6 Awash 7 Exhumed 12 Suitable 13 Lucifer 15 Anagram

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Richmond face cash crisis

A CRISIS meeting at Richmond was continuing late last night to determine whether the financially-troubled Allied Dunbar Premiership rugby union club should, as seems inevitable, apply to go into admin-istration. As the management discussed the implications of Ashley Levett's decision to scale down his investment, which stands at more than £6 million, it transpired that approaches are expected to be made to John Madeiski, the multimilionaire owner of Reading Football Club, with a view to a possible takeover.

Madeiski, who built the new showpiece stadium where Richmond now play, is in the Far East on business, but it would make obvious sense for the tycoon, who made his fortune from car magazines, to become involved. There are plans to share the rugby and football administrations, but whether Madejski wants to take control, giving the scale of By MARK SOUSTER

losses in professional rugby, is another Michelle Lawrence, the Richmond

press officer, said: "There is talk of John coming in. It is not difficult to understand why. He took over and saved Reading and has put an enormous amount into the community."

Lawrence indicated that the club would probably go into administration today or on Monday, which would give it a four-month breathing space in which to seek new finance and restructure now that Levett has made his position clear.

Tony Hallett, the former Richmond chief executive and now a non-executive director, said that the administration option would ensure that "creditors do not become predators". Levett is reducing his stake from 80 per cent to 25 per cent in the

club, which moved its base from southwest London last season to cut annual losses from £2.8 million to £1.6 million.

The reveilation of the club's dire straits could not come at a more inopportune moment. They have just reached the semi-finals of the Tetley's Bitter Cup and the financial problems will create uncertainty within the playing squad of 32, who have been reassured that there is sufficient money to keep the club going until the end of the season.

Levett, a commodity trader based in Monaco, is the second of the new breed of owner to withdraw from professional rugby. Sir John Hall, who set the benchmark three years ago when he enticed Rob Andrew to Newcastle for £150,000 a year, recently pulled out of the club after writing off an estimated £8 million.

England set the standard, page 49

